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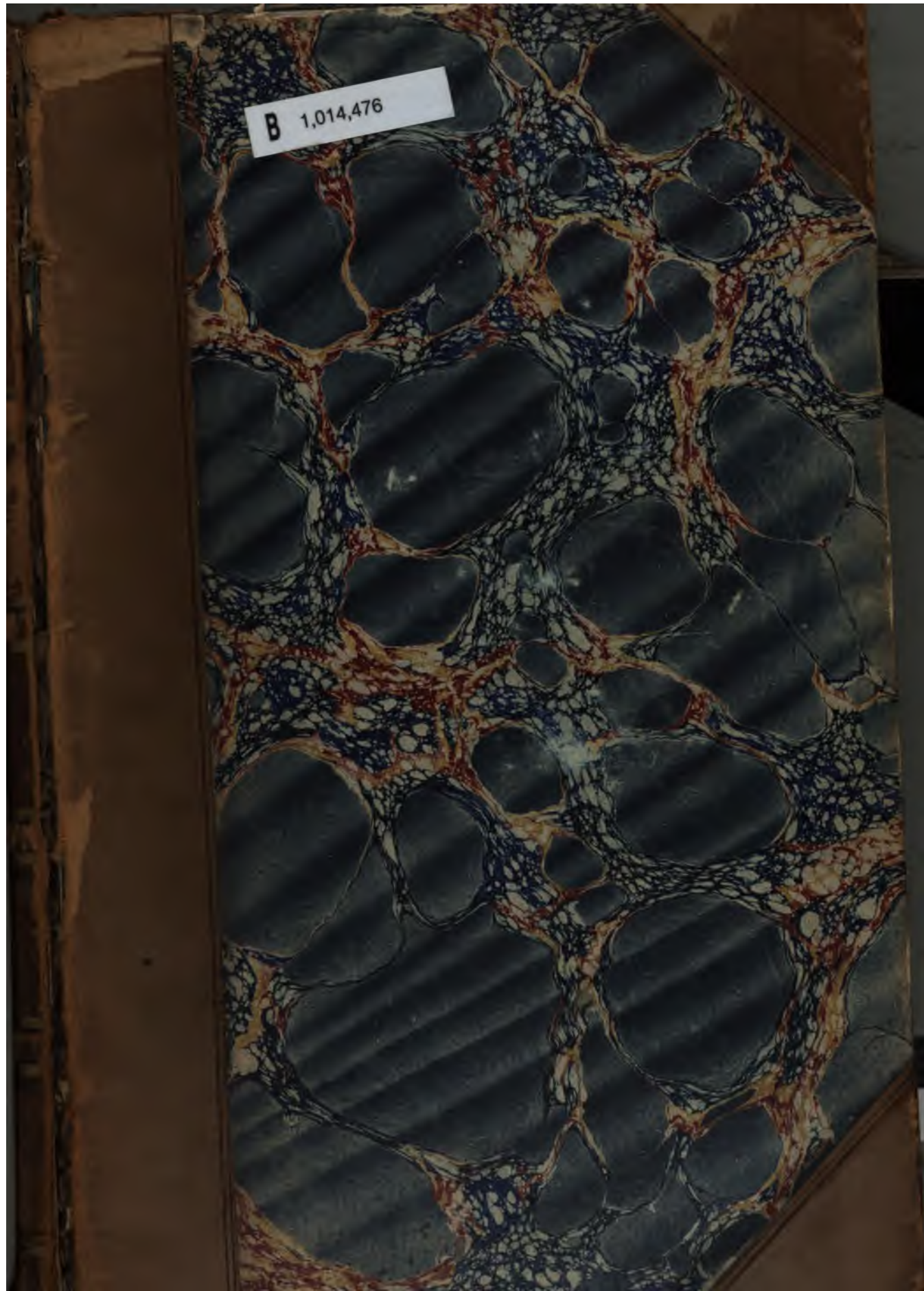
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HANSARD'S
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,

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WILLIAM IV.

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TENTH AND LAST VOLUME OF THE SESSION.

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Further Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure *deferred till Monday next*.

LORDS, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of Judicial Business only.

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Main Question again proposed :—Debate *adjourned* till *To-morrow*.

LORDS, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of
Judicial Business only.

COMMONS, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29.

MR. SPEAKER being unable to resume the Chair from continued indisposition,
MR. PLAYFAIR, the Chairman of Ways and Means, took the Chair as
Deputy Speaker.

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Amendment proposed to the said proposed Amendment,

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Question proposed, "That those words be added to the said proposed Amendment:"—After debate, *Moved*, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(*Mr. Hicks.*)—After further short debate, it being a quarter of an hour before Six of the clock, the Debate stood adjourned till *To-morrow.*

LORDS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of Judicial Business only.

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Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Question [29th November], "That the Debate be now adjourned on the Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment to Main Question [28th November]":—	
And which proposed Amendment to the Amendment was,	
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Question again proposed, "That the Debate be now adjourned,"—(<i>Mr. Hicks</i>):—Debate resumed	408
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Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted :"—Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in line 1, to leave out the word "all,"—(*Mr. Gorst*) 434

Question proposed, "That the word 'all' stand part of the Question :"—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed,

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Question proposed, "That the word 'relating' stand part of the Question :"—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed,

In line 2, to leave out the words "Law and Courts of Justice," and insert the words "legal procedure,"—(*Mr. Gorst*),—instead thereof 441

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question :"—After short debate, Question put :—The House divided; Ayes 122, Noes 51; Majority 71.—(Div. List, No. 404.)

Amendment proposed, in line 2, after the word "Justice," to insert the words "and legal procedure,"—(*Mr. Gibson*) 444

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted :"—Question put, and *agreed to*.—Words *inserted*.

Amendment proposed,

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Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted :"—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed,

In line 2, to leave out the words "and to Trade, Shipping," and insert the words "or of Agriculture, Commerce, or,"—(*Sir John Hay*),—instead thereof 451

Question proposed, "That the words 'and to Trade, Shipping' stand part of the Question :"—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, after the word "may," to insert the words "by order of the House in each case,"—(*Mr. Gibson*) 455

Amendment *agreed to*.

Amendment proposed, to amend the Resolution by omitting, in line 3, the word "respectively,"—(*Mr. Gladstone*) 456

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Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words "and the procedure in the said Committee shall be, so far as circumstances admit, the same as the procedure in a Committee of the whole House, and all rules and customs pertaining to a Committee of the whole House shall be observed in the said Committees, except in so far that the Chairman of the said Committees shall not be deemed to possess any of the powers specially conferred on the Chairman of Ways and Means by any of the Resolutions relating to the Business of the House agreed to in this Session of Parliament,"—(*Lord Randolph Churchill*) 456

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Amendment proposed,	
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Question proposed, "That those words be there added:"—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, <i>withdrawn</i> .	
Amendment made, by adding, at the end thereof, the words—	
"That any Notice of Amendment to any Clause in a Bill which may be committed to a Standing Committee given by any honourable Member in the House shall stand referred to such Committee,"—(<i>Sir R. Assheton Cross</i> .)	
Amendment proposed, by adding, at the end thereof, the words, "Provided also, that Twenty be the Quorum of such Standing Committees,"—(<i>Mr. J. G. Talbot</i> :)—Amendment <i>agreed to</i> .	
Main Question, as amended, put.	
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<i>II. Standing Committees.</i>	
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LORDS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of Judicial Business only.

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CRIME (IRELAND)—REPORTED MURDER IN COUNTY KERRY—Question, Mr. Tottenham; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan ..	497

MOTION.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION (VALUERS)—RESOLUTION—

Moved, "That there be laid before the House, a Copy of Letter, dated the 19th day of October 1882, from the Irish Land Commissioners to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, dealing with the question of the Valuers recently attached to each Sub-Commission,"—(Mr. Trevelyan) .. 498

After short debate, Question put:—The House divided; Ayes 153, Noes 14: Majority 139.—(Div. List, No. 405.)

Copy presented accordingly; to lie upon the Table and to be printed. [No. 416.]

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ORDER OF THE DAY.

—:0:—

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—

II. STANDING COMMITTEES—Resolution 2 (NOMINATION BY COMMITTEE OF SELECTION)—[Adjourned Debate] [Thirty-fourth Night]—

Further Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure *resumed* .. 498

Moved, “That the said Standing Committees do consist of not less than sixty, nor more than eighty, Members, to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, who shall have regard to the classes of Bills committed to such Committees, to the composition of the House, and to the qualifications of the Members selected; and shall have power to add and discharge Members from time to time, provided the number of eighty be not exceeded,”—(*Mr. Dodson*.)

Amendment made in line 1, by inserting, after the word “That,” the words “each of,”—(*Mr. Dodson*.)

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, to leave out from the words “consist of,” to the end of the Question, in order to add the words “forty Members who shall be elected by the whole House by ballot in manner hereinafter prescribed:—

1. Mr. Speaker shall prescribe a day during the sitting of the House of which not less than one week's notice shall be given at which the election of any Standing Committee ordered by the House shall take place;
2. The time of election shall be on the day so prescribed between the hours of four and six p.m.;
3. Each Member shall have the right of voting for one Member only of such Standing Committee;
4. The vote of each Member shall be given by his delivering personally to an officer appointed by the Speaker to receive the votes a paper containing his own name and the name of the person voted for;
5. The votes so given shall be cast up under the direction of Mr. Speaker, and the forty Members who have received the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected as Members of the said Standing Committee;
6. Where two or more Members shall have received an equal number of votes, Mr. Speaker, if it be necessary, shall give a casting vote to so many of such Members as shall be required to make up the number of the said Committee;
7. If less than forty Members be voted for, Mr. Speaker shall appoint another day, of which not less than three days' notice shall be given, on which the supplementary number of Members required for the said Committee shall be elected in manner aforesaid,”—(*Lord Randolph Churchill*),—instead thereof .. 499

Question proposed, “That the words ‘not less than’ stand part of the Question:”—After debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed,

In line 2, to leave out the word “nominated,” and insert the words “selected and submitted by Motion to the House,”—(*Mr. Norwood*),—instead thereof .. 512

Question proposed, “That the word ‘nominated’ stand part of the Question:”—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendments made, in line 5, by leaving out the words “add and;” and in line 6, by leaving out from the word “time,” to the end of the Question, and by adding the words—

“And to appoint others in substitution for those so discharged. The Committee of Selection shall also have power to add not more than fifteen Members to a Standing Committee in respect of any Bill referred to it to serve on the Committee during the consideration of such Bill,”—(*The Marquess of Hartington*),—instead thereof .. 513

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words “and such Members shall be relieved from attendance on Private Bill Committees, and on Select Committees, so long as they shall continue to serve on a Standing Committee,”—(*Mr. William Henry Smith*.)

Question proposed, “That those words be there added:”—After short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

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PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—RESOLUTION—*continued.*

Main Question, as amended, put.

- (2.) *Resolved*, That each of the said Standing Committees do consist of not less than sixty, nor more than eighty, Members, to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, who shall have regard to the classes of Bills committed to such Committees, to the composition of the House, and to the qualifications of the Members selected; and shall have power to discharge Members from time to time, and to appoint others in substitution for those so discharged. The Committee of Selection shall also have power to add not more than fifteen Members to a Standing Committee in respect of any Bill referred to it to serve on the Committee during the consideration of such Bill.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—

II. Standing Committees.

RESOLUTION 3 (APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN).

- (3.) *Resolved*, That the Committee of Selection shall nominate a Chairman's Panel to consist of not less than four nor more than six Members, of whom three shall be a quorum; and the Chairmen's Panel shall appoint from among themselves the Chairman of each Standing Committee, and may change the Chairman so appointed from time to time.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—

II. Standing Committees.

RESOLUTION 4 (COMMITMENT AND REPORT OF BILLS).

Moved, "That all Bills which shall have been committed to one of the said Standing Committees, shall, when reported to the House, be proceeded with as if they had been reported from a Committee of the whole House,"—(*The Marquess of Hartington*) .. 514

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words "Provided, That the provisions of the Standing Order (Consideration of a Bill, as amended), shall not apply to a Bill reported to the House by a Standing Committee,"—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added:"—After short debate, Question put, and *agreed to.*

Main Question, as amended, put.

- (4.) *Resolved*, That all Bills which shall have been committed to one of the said Standing Committees, shall, when reported to the House, be proceeded with as if they had been reported from a Committee of the whole House: Provided, That the provisions of the Standing Order (Consideration of a Bill, as amended), shall not apply to a Bill reported to the House by a Standing Committee.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—

II. Standing Committees.

RESOLUTION 5 (DURATION OF RESOLUTIONS).

Moved, "That the four preceding Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House until the end of the next Session of Parliament,"—(*Mr. Dodson*) .. 515

After short debate, Amendment proposed,

To leave out the words "end of the next Session of Parliament," and insert the words "fifteenth of July," one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three,"—(*Mr. Gibson,*)—instead thereof .. 517

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question:"—After further short debate, Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn.*

Main Question put.

- (5.) *Resolved*, That the four preceding Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House until the end of the next Session of Parliament.

Standing Orders, as amended, to be *printed.*

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LORDS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2.

EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION—VOTE OF THANKS TO HER MAJESTY'S NAVAL AND MILITARY FORCES—SIR G. J. WOLSELEY'S LETTER communicated by The Lord Chancellor	519
The said letter was ordered to lie on the Table, and to be entered on the Journals.	

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT—

Her Majesty's Speech delivered to both Houses of Parliament by The LORD CHANCELLOR	519
Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.	

After which, THE LORD CHANCELLOR said—

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Thursday the fifteenth day of February next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the fifteenth day of February next.

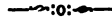
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1.

For *Liverpool City*, v. the Right Hon. Dudley Francis Stewart Ryder, commonly called Viscount Sandon, now Earl of Harrowby.

NEW MEMBERS SWORN.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27.

Borough of Preston—William Edward Murray Tomlinson, esquire.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

University of Cambridge—Right Hon. Henry Cecil Raikes.

HANSARD'S PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,

IN THE

THIRD SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND,
APPOINTED TO MEET 29 APRIL, 1880, IN THE FORTY-THIRD
YEAR OF THE REIGN OF
HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

TENTH AND LAST VOLUME OF SESSION 1882.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Friday, 24th November, 1882.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven
of the clock for the despatch of Judicial
Business only.

House adjourned at a quarter before
Four o'clock, to Monday next,
Eleven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Friday, 24th November, 1882.

QUESTIONS.

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881—THE
IRISH LAND COMMISSION—"SHIELS
v. JOHNSTON."

MR. BIGGAR (for Mr. HEALY) asked
the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieu-

tenant of Ireland, Whether, in the case
of Shiels v. Johnston, in which the
originating notice was served 27th Octo-
ber 1881, for Sessions holden 7th Janu-
ary, the County Court Judge of Cavan
adjourned the case to the 20th February,
when, after a partial hearing, it was
again adjourned to the 17th March,
owing to the absence of Shiels' solicitor;
whether, when the re-hearing came on
upon the 17th March, it transpired that
the Land Commission had remitted the
case to their Sub-Commissioners; whe-
ther this was done without any notice
being given to plaintiff or his solicitor,
until the 2nd February, although the
case was partly heard by the County
Court Judge on February 20th, and
although it should have been heard on
7th January; whether, as Rule 62 pro-
vides that notice of transfer must be
given ten days before the first day of
sessions, this should have been served
in December 1881, instead of February
1882; whether the County Court Judge
considered the proceedings so irregular
that he adjourned the case until June,
and directed Shiels to apply to the Land

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Commission to rescind their transfer order; whether the Commissioners refused this application; whether he is aware the result was that Shiels was put to heavy costs by bringing his witnesses twice to Cavan, and by having to make the Dublin motion; whether the case was not tried until the 23rd ultimo; whether he is aware that the decision then given was that Shiels' rent was reduced from £50 to £35; that the Government valuation is but £16; that several witnesses proved the fair rent at £20 to £23; that the landlady, Mrs. Johnston, gave no evidence as to value, although she had two valuers in court; that the fair rent fixed is £2 over what her valuator swore before the County Court Judge on 20th February; that the court ordered new rent to date from 25th March 1883, instead of 25th March 1882, although the originating notice was served 27th October 1881; whether Mr. Vernon, the Head Commissioner, was formerly agent upon Burrowes' estate, upon which Shiels resides; whether he was a member of the court which remitted the case to the Sub-Commission, or which refused to rescind the order; and, whether the Government propose to make Shiels any compensation for the loss he sustained, or to take any legislative steps to prevent other suitors being similarly treated?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, he hoped the hon. Member for Wexford (Mr. Healy) would take the course that he felt sure, from previous transactions he had had with the hon. Member, he would take, and allow him to communicate a document which would answer these Questions, and then, perhaps, the hon. Member would put any Question that arose out of that document afterwards. In fact, it would consume an immense amount of the time of the House if he answered the Question in detail.

SCOTLAND—CROFTERS IN THE ISLAND OF SKYE.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the Lord Advocate, If it is true, as reported in the "North British Daily Mail," that the magistrates of Edinburgh, Govan, and Partick, and other places, have refused the assistance of their police for the protection of officers engaged in serving writs of ejectment upon crofters in Skye; and, if he can state the reasons

Mr. Biggar

given for such refusals by the magistrates referred to?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): I understand that in some cases the requests for assistance have been granted, and in some refused; but I have no information as to the grounds of refusal.

MR. MACFARLANE: I will ask the right hon. and learned Gentleman if he will ascertain the grounds, and whether he will have any objection to lay Papers on the Table next week? I also beg to give Notice that next week I shall ask the Prime Minister if the Government have definitely made up their minds whether, before Parliament rises, they will issue a Royal Commission to inquire into the condition of the agricultural population of Scotland; and, further, I will ask the right hon. Gentleman whether he will give me a day for discussing that question, as a matter of urgent public importance, without resorting to the facility afforded by Rule No. 2?

SPAIN—INTERNATIONAL LAW—THE SPANISH STEAMER "LEON XIII."

DR. CAMERON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether any steps have been taken by Her Majesty's Government to obtain compensation for the three British engineers who were forcibly carried off from the British port of Singapore, with the connivance of the Spanish Consular and Naval authorities, in the steamship "Leon XIII.;" and, whether he is yet in a position to lay the Correspondence on the subject before Parliament?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The Correspondence is not closed, and the Papers cannot, therefore, conveniently be laid before Parliament at present. The question whether any compensation can be claimed has been referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

POST OFFICE (IRELAND)—LETTER CARRIERS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Postmaster General, Whether it is a fact that during fourteen weeks the letter carriers of Belfast only received an advance of pay amounting on the whole to £29 9s. 5d. or at the rate of £94 12s. 1d. per annum, although they were promised £278 per annum; and, if the facts are as stated,

will he be good enough to explain the discrepancy?

MR. FAWCETT: The figures mentioned by the hon. Member as to the increase of pay which the letter carriers of Belfast have up to the present time received are substantially correct. No promise was given that the immediate increase of pay would amount to £278 a-year. The Return which was furnished to me was that this would be the increase in the cost at the mean; and the difference arises from the fact that whereas the scale at the maximum has been increased by 1s., there has been an increase in the scale at the minimum of 4s. a-week, and, consequently, the cost will be proportionately increased by new appointments.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT— OFFICIAL "INVESTIGATORS."

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Is it a fact that the Sessional Crown Prosecutors who represent the Crown before the Arrears investigators in many cases act also as advocates for the landlords who are their clients; and, whether such conduct has his approval?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sessional Crown Prosecutors occasionally attend at the request of Mr. Richard Bourke, who represents the Treasury in all matters under the Arrears Act, at investigations under that Act in the counties for which they are the Sessional Crown Prosecutors; but Mr. Bourke informs me that never on any of these occasions have they acted as advocates for landlords, and that they have never appeared on behalf of the landlords at any such investigations so far as he is aware.

MERCANTILE MARINE—SHIPWRECKS —H.M.S. "LIVELY."

MR. BIGGAR asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, If it is a fact that H.M.S. "Lively," when on a voyage from Harwich to Sheerness, on or about the 13th instant, passed a vessel on shore on the Dunfleet Sands, and did not make any effort to rescue the crew beyond telegraphing from Sheerness, after her arrival there, for the life-boat to be sent from Harwich; if the "Lively" is not fitted with one or more life-boats suitable for such a service; and, if it is true that four survivors of the original crew of fourteen were subsequently rescued

by the small boats of some fishing smacks?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: On the 13th instant the *Lively*, bearing the flag of the Admiral Superintendent of Naval Reserves, observed, in common with other passing ships, a vessel on shore on the Dunfleet Sands. The *Lively* had no life-boats, and the sea was too high to allow her boats to approach the wreck. It was considered better, instead of remaining by the wreck, to push on to Sheerness and send a life-boat, which was done. This action is approved by the Board of Admiralty. There were five salvage smacks (not ordinary fishing smacks) watching the wreck; but we have no official knowledge of the subsequent events.

PEACE PRESERVATION (IRELAND) ACT—ARMS LICENCES—HOUSE SEARCHES.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, On what information did Sub-Inspector M'Dermott, on 14th August last, at three o'clock in the morning, search the house of Mr. Murphy, of Cloonsam Cloone, county Leitrim; and, on what grounds did Major Neild, R.M., refuse a licence to Mr. Murphy, at Cloone Petty Sessions, on 16th August, although he is owner of 130 acres of land in fee, and his application was recommended by two local magistrates?

MR. TREVELYAN: I must decline to give the information on which the Constabulary act in such cases. Major Neild, who is not at present stationed in the district, has no recollection of having refused Mr. Murphy an arms licence, and he states that his rule is to refuse no person properly recommended; but Mr. Turner, who is now the licensing officer of the district, states that he refused a licence to Murphy on the 23rd of August, as his certificate was not signed by two magistrates and his application was opposed by the police.

SPAIN—INTERNATIONAL LAW—SUR- RENDER OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether he has yet received, by telegram or otherwise, the Report of the Committee of inquiry as to the case of the Cuban Refugees; and, if so, whe-

ther he will lay it upon the Table of the House?

MR. O'KELLY asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, When he will be able to communicate to the House the result of the investigation into the surrender of Colonel Maceo and his companions to the Spanish Government?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: If the right hon. Baronet will recall my answer of Tuesday last, he and the House will see that no time has been lost when I tell them that the despatch is now on its road between Gibraltar and this place. We got a telegram from the Governor the day before yesterday, saying that it would be sent off yesterday morning. Considering the very important and complicated issues that are involved, Her Majesty's Government have thought that it would not be proper and would hardly be decent not to wait for the Report.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: Do I understand that the Government have received no telegram at all as to the substance of that Report?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the Government have taken any steps to secure the release of the Cuban refugees by the Spanish Government; and, if so, what steps have been taken for that purpose; and, whether he will lay all the Correspondence between the British and Spanish Governments upon the Table of the House?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Under the circumstances disclosed in the reply of my hon. Friend the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, it is clear that it would be a gross dereliction of duty on the part of Her Majesty's Government if, having to deal with so delicate a matter as the alleged misconduct of Colonial authorities, they committed themselves to any particular course until they had full opportunity of considering the Report which is on its way home, and which will contain all the details of the case.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: What I want to understand is this. These people are for the moment condemned to imprisonment, and we desire to know whether Her Majesty's Government have

made any representations at all to the Spanish Government up to the present moment?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I have already said on four or five occasions in this House that communications have been made; but those communications, as we have not a full knowledge of particulars, have been of an unofficial character.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I wish to know whether it is a fact that the wife and sister-in-law of General Maceo have been imprisoned by the Spanish authorities?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Perhaps the hon. Member will give Notice of his Question.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: I will repeat both of my Questions next week.

STATE OF IRELAND—"MOONLIGHTING," CO. LIMERICK.

MR. BIGGAR (on behalf of Mr. HEALY) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the case that the two agents of the Property Defence Association returned for trial for "moonlighting" at Murroe, county Limerick, on the 17th instant, were admitted to bail; whether it is the fact that over sixty persons from the Millstreet district were detained in gaol some nine months, without bail, for a similar offence, and kept in solitary confinement twenty-two hours out of the twenty-four, without liberty of communication; if so, why a different course has been followed in the case of agents of the Property Defence Association; whether two of the accused Millstreet prisoners are still in gaol, the Crown having opposed bail for them at the Winter Assizes, the indictment being changed to treason felony; whether one of them, Moynighan, has been in custody twelve months; whether, although four assizes have been held since his arrest, no attempt has been made to put him on trial; whether the Government is aware that at the Winter Assizes of 1881 he had fruitlessly to keep eight witnesses in Cork during seven weeks, at heavy expense; will the Crown now either order his discharge, or give a guarantee that he will be tried at the next Winter Assizes; and, in the latter case, will care be taken to give reasonable notice, so that he may prepare his defence; and,

Sir R. Assheton Cross

will the Crown defray the reasonable expenses of counsel and witnesses for Moynighan and his fellow prisoner, as under the Crimes Act?

MR. TREVELYAN: The two agents of the Property Defence Association referred to in this Question have been admitted to substantial bail. Sixty-two persons from the Millstreet district, charged with treason-felony, were detained in gaol in Cork, but only two of them were detained so long as nine months. They were all treated in accordance with the rules approved of by Parliament which are in force for untried prisoners. No agent of the Property Defence Association has been committed to the Cork Prison. Two of the Millstreet prisoners are still in custody in that gaol. Moynighan, the man referred to by name, was tried at the last Summer Assizes for treason-felony, when the jury disagreed. He is to be put on trial at the approaching Winter Assizes for an attack by night on the house of a person named Carroll. It is the case that he applied to be admitted to bail, and I believe the application was opposed by direction of the Attorney General for Ireland, and was refused. With regard to the other points in the Question, I must refer the hon. Member to my right hon. and learned Friend.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON) then gave further answers to parts of the Question.

IRELAND—SEIZURES OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS.

MR. BIGGAR (for Mr. HEALY) asked the Postmaster General, How many copies of American newspapers have been stopped in the Irish Post Offices within the last four months, and the names of the journals; whether these seizures are made in the General Post Office, Dublin, and under warrants of the Lord Lieutenant, or whether instructions to seize have been given to Postmasters generally; and, whether any similar seizures have taken place in England?

MR. TREVELYAN (for Mr. FAWCETT): During the last four months all the copies of the *New York Irish World* and *United Irishman*, and a pamphlet called *The Irish Avenger and Dynamite Evangelist*, have been stopped in the General Post Office in Dublin, and since

the 31st of August last *The Irish Nation* has likewise been stopped. In answer to a Question during last Session I gave the reasons for stopping them. These newspapers have been detained by virtue of express warrants of the Lord Lieutenant. I am informed that no similar proceedings have been found necessary on the part of the Executive in England.

NAVY—CHILI AND PERU—COMMANDER ACLAND, R.N., AND LIEUTENANT BRENTON, R.N.

MR. WILLIAMSON asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether the meritorious services of Commander Acland, R.N., lately attached to the Chilean Army by our Naval Commander in the Pacific during the recent war with Peru, and of Lieutenant Brenton, R.N., in like manner attached to the Peruvian Army, services involving great personal hardship and danger, and which markedly conduced to the safety of the Peruvian capital in that war, have been brought under the consideration of the Admiralty; and, whether at this time, when the services of many other naval officers are being specially recognised, he will undertake that the services of the two officers above named will not be lost sight of? The hon. Member explained that in putting the Question he had had no communication, either directly or indirectly, with the gallant officers named.

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: The Board of Admiralty are well aware of the excellent service done by the two officers named by my hon. Friend, and I can assure him that their merits are fully recognized and appreciated.

SIR HARRY VERNEY: I should like to say that this Question is not asked in consequence of any communication with the friends of these officers.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—COURT VALUERS—MR. GREY.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Mr. Grey, who has been recently engaged as Official Valuer in connection with the Land Commission in the County of Clare, is the same gentleman who, as Official Valuer acting with the county Dublin Sub-Commission, valued the farms of a number of tenants of Lord Talbot de Malahide at a higher

figure than that fixed by the sworn Valuer for the landlord; and, whether he is the same gentleman whose valuation in a number of cases listed for trial at Edenderry caused the immediate withdrawal of those cases from Court; and, whether, if so, the Government intend to continue Mr. Grey in the position of Court or Official Valuer?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, that Mr. Grey, the official valuer now attached to the Clare Sub-Commission, was the same gentleman who was attached to the Dublin Sub-Commission. He valued the farms on the estate of Lord Talbot de Malahide, and he was the official valuer of the Sub-Commission who sat at Edenderry. The Land Commissioners had no official knowledge of the matter; but they informed him that they apprehended that any cases withdrawn from the Land Courts were so withdrawn before any valuations in those cases had been made by the official valuers. Mr. Grey was changed to the County Clare Sub-Commission only because the Sub-Commission to which he was first attached was going to a locality with which he was connected.

MR. MACARTNEY asked, was this the same gentleman who was appointed by the Land Commissioners as one of the first of their official valuers?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he was not. Mr. Grey, the head of the official valuers, was a different person.

CRIME (IRELAND)—THE MAAMTRASNA MURDERS—REWARDING CROWN WITNESSES.

MR. M'COAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Irish Government intends to mark its appreciation of the courage displayed by the witnesses, other than the two informers who turned Queen's evidence, by whose testimony the arrest and conviction of the Maamtrasna murderers was mainly brought about, by conferring on them some reward commensurate with the great service thus rendered to public justice, and calculated to encourage similar aid in the discovery and punishment of grave crime?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, this question had only just been brought under the notice of the Irish Government, and they had not yet had time to consider the matter.

Mr. Kenny

PARLIAMENT — PRIVILEGE — THE VOTES OF PEERS—THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY ELECTION.

MR ASHTON DILKE asked Mr. Attorney General, Whether his attention has been called to the fact that Lord Rayleigh, a Peer of the Realm, has voted for the election of a Member of Parliament for the University of Cambridge; and, whether this does not constitute a "high infringement of the liberties and privileges" of this House? He added that he had since received information that another Peer had voted.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES): Sir, I thought it was perfectly well known and understood that no Peer, either temporal or spiritual, and no Irish Peer, unless a Member of this House, can vote for an election of a Member. It has so been stated more than once in the House of Lords, and was so judicially determined in a case heard eight or ten years ago, when Lord Beauchamp endeavoured to assert his right to vote by having his name put on the register. The question came before the Court of Common Pleas on appeal, and after full discussion, it was determined that by the Common Law no Peer is entitled to vote; and I know of nothing that exempts the elections for the Universities from this general rule of law. My hon. Friend asks me whether the fact of Lord Rayleigh having voted does not constitute a high infringement of the liberties and privileges of this House? Of course, that is the language of the Resolution, but it has not the effect of law; and I should think the better course will be to assume that Lord Rayleigh was advised that he was acting within his right when he tendered his vote, and had no intention to interfere with the liberties of this House.

MR. J. LOWTHER: Will the hon. and learned Gentleman state whether, if a Peer tenders his vote, the presiding officer should receive it, and trust to the action of a scrutiny to remove it or reject it?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES): Without referring to a University election, I should say that if a Peer's name were on the register—which it ought not to be—the duty of the presiding officer would be to receive

the vote, which, however, would be a nullity and could be struck off on a scrutiny.

CONSERVATIVE LOAN SOCIETIES.

MR. M'LAREN asked Mr. Attorney General, Whether he has observed in the "Standard" newspaper of Tuesday last a letter signed "W. J. Richards, President of the Working Men's Constitutional Union," the writer of which "strongly advocates" the formation of Conservative Loan Societies in different parts of the United Kingdom, openly avowing that

"The business opportunities of such societies afford the best means of enlisting political sympathy amongst the masses,"

and that

"Each householder should be attacked, and the truths of Conservative principles brought to the doors of every elector;"

whether he is aware that the Working Men's Constitutional Union is supported by wealthy persons of the Conservative party; and, whether loan societies, having for their object the "enlisting of political sympathy among the masses," are, at the present moment, lawful institutions; and, if so, whether he will bring them within the provisions of the Corrupt Practices Bill?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES): Yes, Sir; my attention has been called to the subject of this letter, which certainly is a remarkable one, by several correspondents. It is a letter from Mr. W. J. Richards, President of the Working Men's Conservative Union, in which he suggests that certain Societies, among others Loan Societies, should be formed on the ground that the business opportunities of such Societies afford the best means of enlisting political sympathy among the masses, and for bringing home the truths of Conservative principles to the doors of every elector. [Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: Hear, hear!] I am sorry to hear that cheer from the noble Lord, because clearly this matter is a serious matter. I may mention that formerly it was not regarded as an offence—at least it was not well understood to be an offence—to give a loan in order to influence votes; but, in 1842, the Report of the Lyme Regis Committee to this House stated that corrupt practices had for some time prevailed by the lending

of money on notes of hand and other securities, and that the practice was insidious and demoralizing, and peculiarly adapted to interfering with the free and honest exercise of the franchise, and demanding serious attention and inquiry from the House. In consequence of that Report, and a Report by another Committee, by the Corrupt Practices Bill of 1854 it was made an act of bribery and a penal offence, involving two years' imprisonment, for any person to make a loan or promise a loan to another in order to influence his vote, and on proof of agency, any Member obtaining the benefit of such a proceeding would lose his seat, in consequence of the Statute having been broken. It seems to me that the law was quite sufficient to meet any such case as the hon. Gentleman suggested, and it is not necessary to deal with it by legislation. But now that the matter has been made public, and the question brought to the knowledge of influential Members of the Conservative Party, I trust that their influence will be used to deprecate such a suggestion being carried into effect.

MR. GORST: The hon. and learned Gentleman has not answered the middle part of the Question—that is, whether he is aware that the Working Men's Constitutional Union is supported by wealthy persons of the Conservative Party?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES): No, Sir; I really have no knowledge affecting the wealth of Members of the Conservative Party; that is a matter with which my hon. and learned Friend is better acquainted than I am, and perhaps he can give some information to the House on the subject.

MR. LABOUCHERE: Will the hon. and learned Gentleman tell us whether this is the same Society whose members received 1s. for coming into the Lobby of the House?

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Perhaps the Attorney General can inform us whether there are not several Building Societies called Liberal Societies, which advance money to Liberal voters to enable them to build their own houses?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, he had no knowledge on the subject.

EGYPT (POLITICAL AFFAIRS)—ACTION OF ITALY.

MR. ERRINGTON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether there is any foundation whatever for the statement, made on the authority of the French "Moniteur," that Italy has taken the initiative in proposing a Conference on the Egyptian question?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: No, Sir; there is no foundation whatever for the statement.

PIERS AND HARBOURS (IRELAND)—KINVARRA HARBOUR.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he has received any Reports from the Inspectors of Fisheries in reference to the condition of Kinvarra Harbour, county Galway; whether the harbour is falling into such a state of decay as to be useless, and also unsafe to life; whether the harbour was originally built at the public expense; and, how has it come to be now private property; whether the Government contemplate any steps for putting the harbour in proper repair, and restoring it to the public; and, if there be any objection to publish the Correspondence and the Reports of the Inspectors of Fisheries on the subject?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have received Reports from the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries in reference to the Kinvarra Pier and Harbour, in the County Galway. They show that the harbour is falling into a state of dilapidation. The pier was originally built at the expense of the county by county presentment. It is now private property, having been purchased in the Landed Estates Court by Mr. Blake Forster, together with the town of Kinvarra and some adjoining lands. The Government have been advised that as the pier is private property no public money can be expended on it under the Piers and Harbours Acts. Although there is nothing in the Reports of the Inspectors and the other official documents which would render their presentation in any way embarrassing, I must, on principle, decline to lay the Correspondence on the Table.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked, was it not a fact that the harbour came into

the possession of its present owner by mistake?

[No reply was given.]

EGYPT (RE-ORGANIZATION)—THE POLICE FORCE.

MR. LABOUCHERE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he has observed the statement in a telegram from Cairo, in the "Times" of November 22nd, in which it is stated that 450 Albanians, who are now in Alexandria, are to be incorporated into the Police Force of Egypt; and, whether Her Majesty's Government have been consulted on the employment of Albanians in the Egyptian Force; and, whether that Force is largely composed of foreigners?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: In answer to the last portion of the hon. Member's Question, I may say that a certain portion of the Police Force is composed of foreigners. Her Majesty's Government learnt that it was intended to enrol in the Egyptian urban police large numbers of Albanians; but, owing to the representations made on the subject by Lord Dufferin, the scheme will not be carried out.

EGYPT—TREATMENT OF PRISONERS AT ZAGAZIG.

MR. LABOUCHERE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he has obtained any further information in regard to the alleged cruelties committed on prisoners, by the Egyptian Government, at Zagazig; and, whether he will take steps to prevent such cruelties being committed, or arbitrary arrests being ordered by that Government, so long as it is maintained by the presence of British Troops in Egypt?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: No information has been received with regard to the alleged cruelties on prisoners at Zagazig; but Lord Dufferin has directed a British officer to proceed on a tour of inspection of the provincial towns. This officer will examine their state, ascertain the number of prisoners confined for political offences, and report upon their treatment. The Egyptian Government has also appointed a Sub-Commission to sit at Cairo, to examine the cases of the prisoners in the provincial gaols.

The functions of this Commission will be to sift documentary evidence, and allow prisoners accused of light offences to be released on bail. A British officer will be present at the sittings of the Commission.

FISHERY PIERS AND HARBOURS (IRELAND)—A DEPUTATION.

MR. BLAKE asked the Secretary to the Treasury, Whether it is his intention to comply with the request made to him some days since to receive a deputation of Members representing Irish Maritime Counties for the purpose of making a representation respecting the desirability of renewing the advances in aid of local efforts towards the construction of Fishery Harbours; and, if so, will he be kind enough to appoint some day before the greater part of the Maritime Members will have left for Ireland?

MR. COURTNEY: The hon. Member asks me whether I will receive a deputation of Maritime Members from Ireland. I confess, Sir, that I have an abiding aversion to receiving deputations; not so much on account of the consumption of time they involve, as because they proceed from the assumption that personal solicitation secures an attention denied to written Memorials. However, if the hon. Member and his Friends think they have something to tell which cannot be put in writing, I will arrange to meet them some day next week.

MR. BLAKE: Am I to understand that the hon. Gentleman declines to accede to the request to receive a deputation on the subject?

MR. COURTNEY: If the hon. Gentleman has anything to say that he cannot put in writing, I will arrange a meeting.

MR. BLAKE: In compliance with the request of the hon. Gentleman, I put the whole matter in writing and asked him for a reply. He gave me no satisfactory answer as to whether he would receive a deputation or not. I wish, therefore, to ask him if—

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member, if he desires, can put a Question arising out of the answer of the hon. Gentleman; but he is not at liberty to debate the matter.

MR. BLAKE: I beg respectfully to ask the Prime Minister, If he will receive a deputation of Irish Members

for the purpose of making a simple representation with regard to harbours in Ireland, the Secretary to the Treasury having declined to do so?

MR. GLADSTONE: I think the hon. Member is under a misapprehension. I understood the answer of my hon. Friend the Secretary to the Treasury to be that if the hon. Gentleman, and those on whose behalf he spoke, are of opinion that any useful purpose would be served by any further exposition of the question, he would be ready to receive them.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: I beg to ask Mr. Speaker, as a matter of Order, whether an hon. Member of this House has not a right to demand an interview with a Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: The Question the hon. Member puts to me does not arise on any point of Order with reference to the answer of the Secretary to the Treasury.

MR. BLAKE: On a Question of Order I beg to press the hon. Gentleman for a distinct answer as to whether he will or will not receive a deputation?

MR. COURTNEY: I have twice stated that if the hon. Gentleman has anything to say that he cannot put in writing, I will make arrangements to see him.

MR. BLAKE: I have asked a plain Question and I want a plain answer.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Gentleman is not entitled to debate the matter. He has put a Question twice and received two answers. He is not entitled to pursue the matter further.

MR. BLAKE: Then, Sir, I will ask the same Question on Monday, and every following day, till I get a satisfactory answer.

EGYPT (MILITARY EXPEDITION)—THE EXPENSES.

COLONEL STANLEY asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, How soon he can inform the House of the probable cost of the recent Naval and Military operations in Egypt; and, whether it will be necessary to submit Supplementary Estimates for Army and Navy Services during the current financial year?

MR. GLADSTONE: I hope to be able to make a short statement on Monday on the subject which will be sufficient for all practical purposes. Of course, it will partake of the nature of an Esti-

mate. There can be no account as yet ; but that short statement will, I think, meet the purposes of the right hon. and gallant Gentleman on the subject. With respect to the second part of the Question, it cannot yet be determined whether it will be more convenient to ask for a further Vote in the form of a Vote of Credit or in the form of a Supplementary Estimate. There is no intention and no need—indeed, it would not be a regular course—to ask for a further Vote during the present Session, as the funds at command of the Government under the direction of Parliament and under the existing law are ample for the purpose.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL : I wish to ask if the right hon. Gentleman, when he makes that statement, will move the adjournment of the House, in order to allow the question to be discussed ; or whether, under the New Rules, Ministers of the Crown enjoy privileges which are not allowed to ordinary Members ?

MR. GLADSTONE : I shall exercise no privilege on Monday. I do not know whether the right hon. and gallant Gentleman will renew his Question on Monday ; but my statement will simply be an answer to the Question which has been put to me to-day.

COLONEL STANLEY : I will renew my Question on Monday.

EGYPT (MILITARY OPERATIONS)—THE PROPOSED VOTES OF CENSURE.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he is in a position to give a day for the discussion of the Notices condemning our Military Operations in Egypt ? The hon. Gentleman explained that he intended the Question only to apply to the Motion of which he had given Notice.

MR. GLADSTONE : We are not in a position to give a day for the discussion of the Notice. That Notice is a Vote of Censure on the Government, and it is not our opinion that it would be of advantage to bring on that Notice at the present time. In fact, we think the hon. Member himself would be in a much better condition to make such a Motion, if he thinks fit, when the House meets at the regular time and in the regular Session than he would now, when, in all likelihood, after we have finished the Procedure Resolutions, the

Mr. Gladstone

House will be sufficiently exhausted. I think my hon. Friend will see that, as regards the Party opposite, it certainly would not be desirable that a Vote of Censure on the conduct of the Government should, for their purpose, be brought on in the absence of the right hon. Baronet the Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote). [“ Oh, oh ! ”] I hear some murmurs. I am not giving that as the reason, because my answer would be the same if the right hon. Baronet were here ; but I think it is an additional reason. The substance of my reason was given before. I see no advantage in raising the question at the present moment ; and my hon. Friend knows that whatever respect we may pay to his views personally, the line of distinction is a broad one between a Motion of this kind, made on irresponsible—I mean on individual—authority, and a Motion made in expression of the sentiment of a large portion of the House.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON : If I can get 40 Members I shall go on.

EGYPT (POLITICAL AFFAIRS)—ANGLO-EGYPTIAN CONVENTION.

MR. BOURKE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he can now lay upon the Table of the House the new Anglo-Egyptian Convention ; whether any other Convention with respect to Egypt is in contemplation ; whether a Conference upon Egyptian affairs has been proposed ; and, whether Her Majesty's Government has consented to take part in such Conference ?

MR. GLADSTONE : In regard to the first Question, I think I should apologize to the House for having rather hastily used the word Convention, because the form of proceeding has not been determined. But the new arrangement—because arrangement it will be, whether made by correspondence or otherwise—has not yet been concluded. With regard to the second Question, there is no other arrangement of a similar kind in contemplation at the present time. With respect to the third Question, no Conference upon Egyptian affairs has been proposed ; and the fourth Question, therefore, falls to the ground.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT—AFFIDAVITS.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether

it is a fact that magistrates in the county of Longford have refused to take affidavits from tenants seeking to obtain the benefit of the Arrears Act, thereby compelling the tenants in many cases to go long distances in search of a Commissioner of Affidavits, to whom they have to pay a fee; whether the refusal of the magistrates is warranted by the Law; and, whether, if it be not so, he will endeavour to have the practice discontinued?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON), in reply, said, he did not know that magistrates had refused to receive these affidavits, and he had not sufficient time to inquire into the matter. If the hon. Member furnished him with any individual cases, he would have inquiry made into them. He had telegraphed to the Resident Magistrates to know if they had done so, if any of the other magistrates had done so to their knowledge, and he had not yet received a reply. There was a rule made by the Land Commission authorizing the affidavits to be so made, and the same rule also applied to the Arrears Act. He could not imagine but that any magistrate would afford every facility in his power to tenants in these cases; but, as he had not the facts, he was unable to give them a definite answer.

MR. PARNELL, M.P., &c. (RELEASE FROM KILMAINHAM).

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

MR. J. R. YORKE: I beg to ask leave to move the adjournment of the House, in order to bring on a definite matter of urgent public importance.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member is bound to state to the House the definite matter of urgent public importance.

MR. J. R. YORKE: The definite matter is the conduct of the Government, and in particular the conduct of the right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government, in reference to a controversy recently at issue between himself and me with regard to the release of the three prisoners from Kilmainham Gaol a few months ago.

MR. DILLWYN: I rise to Order. I wish to ask whether the hon. Gentleman has a right to refer to a question with reference to which there is already

a Notice on the Books? There is a Notice standing in the name of the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) for Tuesday next.

MR. SPEAKER: I understood the hon. Member to say, in the definite statement which he made, that he proposes to discuss the conduct of the Government, and does not propose to deal with the Motion of the hon. Member for Northampton. I must ask the hon. Member whether he proposes to proceed by asking the leave of the House, and if he be supported by 40 Members?

MR. J. R. YORKE: I beg to ask the leave of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it your pleasure that Mr. Yorke be now heard?

And there being many voices for and against—

MR. SPEAKER: I must now ask whether there are 40 Members prepared to support the Motion?

Whereupon, a large number of Members—not less than 40—rising in their places—

MR. SPEAKER called upon the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire to proceed.

MR. THOROLD ROGERS: I beg to rise to Order. I wish to know whether, in your opinion, Sir, and in the opinion of the House, the question can be raised as to whether this is a matter of urgent public importance?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member, upon his own responsibility, has stated that it is a matter of urgent public importance. I have no authority for contravening that statement.

MR. J. R. YORKE said, he was quite aware that in taking the present course he was incurring a serious responsibility. He had stated that the question was one of urgent public importance, and he hoped to show that it warranted that description. The point between him and the right hon. Gentleman was of a precise and distinct character; and he thought he was not going too far when he said that not merely was the character of a private Member having the courage of his opinions a matter of public importance, but that the character of the Prime Minister for consistency in his statements and conduct was also a matter of urgent public importance. It could not be fairly said that he raised

the question by a side-wind, for he had endeavoured to get a Committee appointed to inquire into the question of the release of the three prisoners from Kilmainham, and failed through no fault of his own. In entering upon a subject of this kind it was necessary that he should recapitulate a few of the facts relating to it. The history of the case went back to the 13th of October last year, when the right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government announced at Guildhall, amid the cheers of the audience, the fact of the arrest of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) and two of his associates. The captivity of those hon. Members lasted until May of the following year, and during that time the House had no reason to believe that the Government had in any degree changed their minds with regard to the position.

Mr. DILLWYN rose to Order. The hon. Member was entering upon a question which had already been discussed in that House under the title of what was called the Kilmainham Treaty. He also wished to point out that a Notice had been given on this subject for next Tuesday week by the hon. Member for Northampton; and he wished to know whether it was competent for the hon. Member to raise any question with regard to a subject in reference to which a Notice of Motion was standing upon the Paper?

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: On that point of Order, Sir, may I ask you a question? The hon. Member for Swansea raises an important point, and one which, unless we have the good fortune to get an authoritative ruling from you, is likely to degenerate into a most serious abuse. The question on which your ruling is asked, Sir, is this—whether it is in the power of an hon. Member in this House to put down on the Notice Paper bogus Motions—["Oh, oh!" and "Order!"]—I say bogus Motions, for the purpose of preventing hon. Members from bringing forward *bona fide* Motions? This is a point on which during the last day or two we have had some examples; and it is of the last importance that we should have a judgment from you on the subject, in order that the House may be able to guard itself in future. The Motion to which the hon. Member for Swansea draws your attention is, I

would inform you respectfully, a bogus Motion.

Mr. LABOUCHERE: I rise to Order, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Member cannot interrupt the noble Lord unless he rises to a point of Order arising out of the noble Lord's observations.

Mr. LABOUCHERE: I do rise to Order, Sir. I wish to ask you whether I cannot move that the words of the noble Lord be taken down?

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: I second that Motion.

Mr. LABOUCHERE: The noble Lord says my Motion is a bogus one, and I hardly think that is a Parliamentary expression. Perhaps the noble Lord would like to withdraw it.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: Certainly not.

Mr. SPEAKER: Lord Randolph Churchill.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: I should not have used the word, Sir, if it were not within the knowledge of every Member of this House that what I have stated is perfectly correct. In order to point out that the word I used is justified, I will just draw your attention to what has taken place. My hon. Friend (Mr. Yorke) gave Notice of a Motion with respect to the release from prison of the hon. Member for the City of Cork, and the hon. Member for Northampton, in order to prevent the Motion from coming on after half-past 12, moved an Amendment almost precisely in the terms to which the hon. Member for Swansea now draws your attention. But he did more than that. When the Prime Minister proposed to adjourn the debate on the Rules of Procedure the other night shortly after 12 o'clock, in order to get the Motion of my hon. Friend discussed, the hon. Member for Northampton rose in his place and spoke against the adjournment in such a manner that he very nearly incurred your displeasure, obviously with the view of preventing my hon. Friend bringing forward his Motion. And more, Sir, in order to prevent my hon. Friend having the slightest chance of bringing on his Motion, the hon. Member for Northampton has placed on the Paper for every day on which the House sits, up to December 5, a Notice of Motion relating to the other hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Bradlaugh), which Notice of Motion was

Mr. J. R. Yorke

highly inconvenient, if not absolutely irregular, and in deference to that he has taken that Notice off the Paper. The means adopted by the hon. Member for Northampton to prevent the subject being discussed being thus characterized, he has now put down two Motions in a substantive form—

“That this House, being of opinion that it is fully in possession of the facts with regard to the release of Mr. Parnell, Mr. O’Kelly, and Mr. Dillon, thinks that no further inquiry into the facts is needed.”

It is perfectly obvious to the meanest intelligence that the hon. Member never has any intention of bringing forward that Motion, because if he did it would have the very object which he wishes to prevent—of opening debate on this subject. This is obvious. I do not suppose the Rules of the House have ever been so grossly abused before. The hon. Member has put down on the Paper a Notice which he has no intention of bringing forward, which he cannot have any intention of bringing forward, and which is solely for the purpose of stifling discussion—

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL: I rise to Order, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: It strikes me that the noble Lord is raising an entirely different point of Order from that raised by the hon. Member for Swansea. The hon. Member for Swansea asks me whether the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire was in Order in adverting to the Motion of the hon. Member for Northampton, seeing that that Motion is on the Order Book? I am quite clear on that point. According to the Standing Orders, no doubt, he is not entitled to anticipate the discussion of that Motion. Then the noble Lord says that the Motion of the hon. Member for Northampton—using an expression which is scarcely Parliamentary—is a bogus Motion. I wish to say that the Motion which the hon. Member for Northampton has placed upon the Order Book is respectful in its terms, and is, as far as I know, orderly. It is clear, from the observations of the noble Lord, that he thinks that I should strike the Motion from the Order Book; but I have no authority to do so.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: May I rise to a point of Order? It used formerly to be the case that no Motion for Adjournment could be moved

on a matter as to which a Motion stood on the Paper of the House. By a Resolution of last week—No. 2—it is provided that—

“Unless a Member rising in his place shall propose to move the adjournment, for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance;”

and I ask whether an hon. Member, under these New Regulations, proposing to move the adjournment for the discussion of a matter of urgent public importance, is to be debarred from doing so by a Motion standing on the Paper for perhaps six months hence?

SIR PATRICK O’BRIEN: One word, Sir. [“Order!”]

MR. SPEAKER: I have explained already that an hon. Member is debarred from discussing, on a Motion for Adjournment, a Motion which stands on the Order Book of the House. That is an established and fundamental rule of debate. With respect to the Resolution lately passed by the House, I apprehend that all that is done by the Resolution was this—that whereas formerly any hon. Member might, if he pleased, move the adjournment of the House, now that privilege or power is restricted under the conditions laid down by the Resolution.

SIR PATRICK O’BRIEN: One word on a point of Order. The noble Lord has used the expression “bogus” as applied to the Motion of the hon. Member for Northampton. Might he call attention to what had occurred within the memory of most Members of that House when the hon. Member for Glasgow (Dr. Cameron) — [*Cries of “Order!”*]

MR. SPEAKER: I said that the expression appeared to me to be scarcely Parliamentary.

MR. J. R. YORKE, resuming, said, he had been sufficiently guarded in his observations. He had merely been proceeding to touch on a historical point which he did not think would be contravened. On the 16th of February the Attorney General for Ireland stated that the imprisoned Members—at any rate, one of them—were steeped to the lips in treason—

MR. DILLWYN: I understood you, Mr. Speaker, to rule that the hon. Member must not refer to what is commonly known as the Kilmainham Treaty. He again proceeds to do so.

MR. SPEAKER: I trust that the hon. Member will observe the ruling of the Chair, that he is not entitled to discuss the Motion of the hon. Member for Northampton.

MR. J. R. YORKE said, he was not discussing it, but alluding to facts which he believed were not disputed. During the six months ending October, 1881, and the succeeding six months, there was no diminution of outrages. On the contrary, they had to a certain extent increased. Up to the 4th of April the Government had apparently no intention whatever to release the prisoners. On the 2nd of May the Prime Minister announced that he had liberated the prisoners, and also that they had been liberated on the Government's own responsibility, without any negotiation, promise, or arrangement whatsoever. On the other hand, on the 4th of May, the late Chief Secretary (Mr. W. E. Forster) said—

DR. CAMERON: I would ask whether, when, under the New Rules, an hon. Member seeks to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance, he is not bound to confine himself to the point, which, in this instance, is the conduct of the right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government? I wish to ask whether the hon. Member is permitted to range over a wide variety of questions which would raise much larger questions?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member stated his desire of bringing to the notice of the House the conduct of the Government with regard to this matter, and he is, as I understand it, laying the ground for bringing a charge in reference to that matter against the Government. So far as I have heard what has fallen from the hon. Member, I have no wish to interpose.

MR. J. R. YORKE said, he only wished to go very lightly over this portion of the subject; but it was essential that he should do so in order that his position might be understood. On the 4th of May the late Chief Secretary (Mr. W. E. Forster) said that the release of the prisoners would be the price paid for the diminution of outrages, and would, he believed, tend to the encouragement of crime.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD: I rise to Order. I wish to ask if the hon. Mem-

ber is in Order in quoting from debates in the present Session of Parliament?

MR. RITCHIE: My hon. Friend is in possession of the House. Is he not entitled to proceed without interruption from other hon. Members? It lies with you, Sir, to call the hon. Gentleman to Order if he commits any breach of Order.

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Member for East Gloucester is quoting from speeches made during the current Session he is not in Order.

MR. J. R. YORKE said, that, in that case, he would simply refer briefly to the dates and events as they occurred. On May 5 the right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government declined to make any statement in reference to the matter. On the 6th, the Phoenix Park murders were committed; on the 11th, the Home Secretary brought in the Coercion Bill; and on the 15th, the right hon. Gentleman at the head of the Government again declined to give any information on the subject. Upon that the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) produced a letter, which he read. The late Chief Secretary asked that hon. Gentleman whether he had read the whole of the letter. The answer was that he believed a paragraph had been omitted, and on a document being handed to the hon. Member for Clare (Mr. O'Shea), it was read by the latter hon. Member under protest. This paragraph, it appeared afterwards, had been shown to the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain), who stated that he had seen it, but he considered it of such little importance that it had escaped his memory, and that he had not mentioned the fact of having seen it to any of his Colleagues. The Arrears of Rent Bill was introduced on the same evening, and it admitted that, in principle and detail, it was founded upon a clause or clauses of a Bill introduced by the hon. Member for New Ross (Mr. Redmond). During the debate the hon. Member for Clare explained the negotiations, or communications, or arrangements—he did not know which word to use, since so many had been employed—with the Prime Minister and the President of the Board of Trade on April the 13th, and also with the late Chief Secretary, who gave an order for the hon. Member to see the hon. Gentleman (Mr. Parnell) in Kilmainham Prison. On May 15 the right

hon. Gentleman (Mr. W. E. Forster) read a Cabinet Memorandum—[Mr. W. E. FORSTER: It was not a Cabinet Memorandum.] Well, it was a Circular or Memorandum which, as he understood, the right hon. Gentleman had made for his own use, and which he showed to the other Members of the Cabinet. That was a very remarkable document, and there were portions of it which created a great sensation at the time, because allusion was made—

MR. DILLWYN: Really, Sir, I must rise to Order. The hon. Member is again referring to the question of which a Notice stands on the Books of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: As I have stated before, I understand the hon. Member to be laying down, so to speak, a foundation for arraigning the conduct of the Government, and I see no reason for interfering.

MR. J. R. YORKE appealed to hon. Gentlemen opposite to bear with him a short time longer. He was conducting this discussion under considerable difficulty. He was about to say that in the Circular there was an allusion to a certain gentleman of the name of Sheridan, who, it appeared, had been in the habit of visiting Ireland in various disguises for the purpose of promoting outrages, and whom it was proposed to bring back from his refuge in some foreign parts in order to be turned from butcher into gatekeeper, and to be used for the suppression of those outrages which he formerly had been engaged in stimulating. That was the allegation. It was mentioned to the right hon. Gentleman the late Chief Secretary (Mr. W. E. Forster), and no doubt it appeared to him a very serious one, for he expressed his great regret that he had had anything to do with the "negotiations." He would ask the House to mark that word; because, if there was one term which the Prime Minister had repudiated as being applicable to anything that was done it was the word "negotiation." [MR. GLADSTONE: Hear, hear!] He was only calling attention to the fact that the Head of the Government and the late Chief Secretary for Ireland gave a totally different account. He would not draw any inference, lest he should be trenching on forbidden ground; he left the House to determine whether the inference to be drawn was satisfactory,

and whether something ought not to be done to ascertain the truth in the matter. He would only now say, what struck the public mind mostly at that time was, that every particular in this "intrigue," as some persons termed it, had been withheld by the Government, until it was disclosed by the late Chief Secretary for Ireland, and by others, against the wish of the Government.

MR. GLADSTONE, interposing, said, he did not admit the accuracy of the hon. Member's statement.

MR. J. R. YORKE said, the Prime Minister had declined to be the first to communicate to the House any statement with regard to this matter. That there were other matters in which the right hon. Gentleman himself was not included was another point to which reference would have to be made, because the President of the Board of Trade had distinctly said that he had seen what was known as the suppressed paragraph; but since he conceived it to be entirely unimportant, he had forgotten it himself, and had not communicated it to his Colleagues. That was a remarkable fact, which was much dwelt upon at the time, and which he would not recall to the right hon. Gentleman's recollection. Another circumstance to be borne in mind was that the Government allowed the suppressed passage to be omitted from the letter without any comment or protest. As regarded the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister that was to be expected, because it appeared that he had not seen it. But it was, he thought, a little remarkable that the memory of the President of the Board of Trade—who had seen it—was so treacherous that he had forgotten entirely the existence of the paragraph. The conditions stated in the letter of the hon. Member for the City of Cork had been fulfilled. The Arrears of Rent Bill was brought in and the prisoners were released.

SIR ARTHUR OTWAY: I rise to Order. I wish to know whether the hon. Member, in laying the foundation for a charge against the Government, is entitled to base that foundation by discussing a Motion already on the Paper of the House?

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: I submit, Sir, that the hon. Member is entirely within the ruling you have laid down.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: Might I ask, on the point of Order—

MR. SPEAKER: I have already stated that, so far as the hon. Member has gone, I have seen no reason to interrupt him.

MR. J. R. YORKE remarked, that he quite understood that there were many Members on the Liberal side of the House who would rather that the facts were not plainly stated, because they were very awkward. He called attention to this matter not because he believed the Government had really deceived the House by the expressions they had used. He did not suppose that the most diligent research would discover in any secret chest a document, duly signed, sealed, and delivered, called the "Kilmainham Treaty." But his contention was that, call them by what name they would, there had been communications, understandings, arrangements, negotiations, givings and takings on both sides of these proceedings, which might very properly be designated by the name of a Treaty. The Prime Minister had always denied that there was such a Treaty, and it might be that there was a certain amount of verbal correctness in that statement. But the facts were somewhat different from what the right hon. Gentleman would make them appear, and these facts would be very likely to transpire if a further investigation took place. The matter excited a good deal of attention last summer, and they had often been challenged by hon. Gentlemen on the other side of the House to move for an inquiry. They had been told that, holding the opinions they did, they ought to have moved for an inquiry. The answer to that was that the Government occupied the whole time of the House, and that, without gross abuse of the Rules, they could not bring the subject forward. He had hoped that they would hear no more of that; but on Monday week the controversy as regarded the Autumn Session was resumed. It arose from a casual allusion of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) to the Kilmainham Treaty, which he described as a disgraceful transaction. [Mr. GLADSTONE: Disgraceful transactions.] He (Mr. Yorke) was sitting, unfortunately, opposite the Prime Minister, and he confessed that he laughed. If he laughed more than good manners warranted, he begged to offer an apology to the right hon. Gentleman for the

personal discourtesy to him. They knew the saying, "*Celui qui rit ne pense pas de mal faire.*" He assured the right hon. Gentleman there was really no malice in that laugh. He simply laughed at the skill with which the noble Lord, after his manner, was throwing a fly over the Treasury Bench, and he laughed also at the manner in which the largest fish on the Treasury Bench rose and gorged that fly. With greater prudence the right hon. Gentleman might have passed it by, for it had already given him some trouble, and would probably give him more. The right hon. Gentleman might have allowed him to enjoy his laugh in the obscurity of the Back Benches—the monotony of which was sometimes more than one could bear—instead of making a dive like a policeman into a jeering crowd, and pulling him out like a little boy by the ear into the fierce light that beat upon the Treasury Bench. He had provided himself with the reports of all the Liberal papers that there might be no mistake as to what passed on the occasion in question. [The hon. Member then read an extract from a newspaper report as to what took place on Monday week.]

MR. SPEAKER intimated that it was not open to the hon. Gentleman to read extracts from the debate which had taken place during the present Session.

MR. J. R. YORKE said, it was a great temptation to do so, because the present Motion turned upon what then took place. The Prime Minister had burnt his ships and cut off his retreat. He had told him that those who made imputations without proving them brought disgrace upon themselves. [Mr. GLADSTONE: Hear, hear!] Then he asked the right hon. Gentleman to give him an opportunity of moving for an inquiry, and since that time he had been unceasing, in season and out of season, in doing everything he could, without violating the Rules of the House, to bring the Motion forward. Although he was not the first person who started the charge, he felt that there was no course open to him but to bring the matter before the House. He accordingly gave Notice of Motion for a Select Committee to inquire into the arrangements attending the release of Mr. Parnell and his fellow-Members. It was true that the Motion alluded to the arrangement commonly called the Kilmainham Treaty;

but he thought that the right hon. Gentleman might have assented to the terms of that Notice. That Motion was objected to, and he submitted a colourless Motion to the noble Lord the Member for Flintshire (Lord Richard Grosvenor) for the approval of the Prime Minister. After two days the noble Lord informed him that the Government would not object to a Motion for a Select Committee to inquire into and report upon all the circumstances relating to the release of Mr. Parnell, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. O'Kelly from custody in Kilmainham Prison, in May, 1882. The Prime Minister seemed only partially satisfied, for he said he had his own notion about the terms of the Motion, although he would not oppose it; he also said that he would move the adjournment at an early hour on Monday, to permit it to be brought on. But his zealous henchman (Mr. Labouchere) was not idle on that occasion, and managed with some assistance to prevent the adjournment of the Procedure debate till after half-past 12, when it was no longer possible to bring it on. His (Mr. Yorke's) position with regard to the right hon. Gentleman and his supporters was this—he declined to separate the responsibility of the Prime Minister from that of his supporters. Even in this supplementary Session they had had evidence of the manner in which the screw could be turned if it suited the purpose of the right hon. Gentleman. ["Question!"] As the hon. Member for Aylesbury (Mr. George Russell) said the other night, the Prime Minister had only to hint a wish, and nine-tenths of his supporters would regard it as law. No doubt, if the Prime Minister had expressed a wish to that effect, the hon. Member for Northampton would have withdrawn his Motion and humbly apologized. The other day, when he asked the Prime Minister whether it was right that his supporters should delay the matter when he had earnestly invited him to make the Motion, the right hon. Gentleman denied that he had "earnestly invited" him to do anything of the kind. But the House would recollect what happened. If the right hon. Gentleman did not earnestly invite him, he must have invited him in joke. All he could say was that he made the joke in so serious a manner that he (Mr. Yorke) did not feel that he had any option but

to take the right hon. Gentleman literally at his word and to press on his Motion. The right hon. Gentleman was a very great man.

"He doth bestride the narrow world
Like a Colossus; and we petty men
Walk under his huge legs, and peep about
To find ourselves dishonourable graves."

But the right hon. Gentleman had, unfortunately for that side of the House, put many good things out of fashion of late years. There were, however, two things which, thank Heaven! were not yet out of fashion in this country—namely, the love of fair play and straightforward conduct. Like Achilles, the right hon. Gentleman might be described as—

"Impiger, iracundus, inexorabilis, acer,
Jura neget sibi nata, nihil non arroget
armis."

He told the right hon. Gentleman, without the smallest disrespect, that no qualities, however great, no position, however high, and no career, however distinguished, would prevent him from incurring the just indignation of his countrymen, if his moral fibre should have been so relaxed by the atmosphere of adulation that surrounded him, that he thought he could depart from engagements openly entered into, and again and again repeated before the House and before the country. He moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That this House do now adjourn."—
(*Mr. J. R. Yorke.*)

MR. GLADSTONE: I understand very well the hortatory and declamatory portions of the speech of the hon. Member, and I understand that very much better than what I might call the argumentative and historical portions. According to the hon. Member, I am a man who appeals to the majority of this House to support me, whether right or wrong. [MR. BIGGAR: Hear, hear!] I am a man who disdains to be bound by right, and says there is no law but force; I am a man who lives in an atmosphere of adulation. Well, I am a man who lives in an atmosphere where, I fully admit, confidence and commendation, far beyond what I deserve, are accorded to me; but the evil moral effect of such confidence and commendation,

carried by friendship to excess, is in no small degree counteracted by the character of the charges and accusations which are incessantly poured upon me by men like the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) and the hon. Member who has just spoken. I have disposed so far, perhaps, of the closing sentences of the hon. Member's speech. I think it is quite needless for me to meet them with a denial or to take any further notice of them; and if I be *iracundus*, as the hon. Gentleman says I am, I can assure him that it requires much sharper weapons and much heavier blows to rouse my anger than any which he has wielded or dealt to-night. The next charge, Sir, that the hon. Gentleman makes is that he cannot distinguish between my supporters and myself. Whatever any supporters of the Government, any person professing Liberal opinions, does or says, I am responsible—that it is my act. That is the doctrine of the hon. Gentleman who comes forward on this occasion, of course after great efforts, to put himself into a judicial frame of mind; because, I presume, he admits that in bringing forward charges importing the deepest disgrace upon persons with whom we sit in this House, we are bound to put ourselves in a judicial frame of mind; and the result of all the hon. Member's efforts in that direction is that he holds that whatever is done by the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere)—in fact, by any Gentleman on this side of the House, perhaps even by the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen)—I am responsible for it. The hon. Member appears to know nothing of the relations which subsist between the Leaders of the Liberal Party and their followers. Upon that subject he might innocently be ignorant; but he is as grossly ignorant of what has taken place under his own eyes and within his own hearing in this House. He quotes my hon. Friend—I hope he is in the House—the hon. Member for Aylesbury (Mr. G. Russell), and says that that hon. Member stated the other night something to this effect—"That if the judgment of the Prime Minister were announced, nine-tenths of the Members sitting on this side—"

MR. J. R. YORKE: If the right hon. Gentleman will allow me, I will tell him what I did say.

Mr. Gladstone

MR. GLADSTONE: Certainly.

MR. J. R. YORKE: I stated that, according to the hon. Member for Aylesbury, the right hon. Gentleman had only to hint a wish, and nine-tenths of his supporters would regard that wish as law.

MR. GLADSTONE: I understand that was stated by my hon. Friend the Member for Aylesbury. But was it meant that the hon. Member for Aylesbury himself regarded my wish as law; or was the declaration satirical and sarcastic like the compliment to myself which the hon. Gentleman opposite introduced into his speech to-night?

MR. J. R. YORKE: The declaration appeared to me to be made in all seriousness.

MR. GLADSTONE: I will refer to the matter again by-and-bye, when I have a reference, which I have not with me at the present moment. The hon. Gentleman is entitled to this credit from me—that undoubtedly, since the question to which he has referred first arose—namely, when the noble Lord opposite spoke of the Kilmainham Treaty, and described it, with his accustomed moderation and good judgment, as a disgraceful transaction—he has made every effort to bring the matter forward. But, Sir, I tell him, that if he had really been in the frame of mind which he appears now to have come into, and if he had consulted the propriety of the case, and those who think with him—the noble Lord, and others beside him who have characterized the release of the hon. Member for Cork City, and the supposed transaction connected with it, as disgraceful transactions—I think they ought to have brought it forward at the time, and moved for an inquiry when these transactions occurred. That is my distinct charge against those who repeatedly made these accusations against the Government and myself, and did not think fit to bring them to the test; and I repeat what I have said with respect to those who make these accusations, and do not seek to bring them to the test at the proper time. Now, the hon. Member makes a reply to that charge, and his reply is that the Government were in possession of the whole time of the House. Of course, the hon. Member does not consciously mean to deviate from what he believes to be exact truth; but he said that from the 2nd of May,

when these charges began, to the close of the Summer Sitting, the Government were in possession of all the time of the House; and this is really in such glaring variance with, and contradiction of, all the facts of the case, that I must say that, as a defence of the charge, it is perfectly worthless. And, if it be worthless as a defence of the hon. Gentleman, still more is it worthless as a defence of those who have shown an inclination to support that charge, and who were in a position on the occurrence of the facts—when everything was fresh in the recollection of everyone concerned—to have made a demand for such an inquiry without the smallest difficulty. Therefore, I think the defence of the hon. Member upon that question is entirely without value. The hon. Gentleman has also said he was not surprised that hon. Members on this side of the House felt disinclined to have the facts produced, because, in his judgment, they were awkward facts; but he will do me the justice to believe that I have never said that there were any awkward facts to disclose. I have always said, in the broadest way, that there could not be a more complete fiction than this whole affair of a Kilmainham Treaty; and to that statement I adhere. I have endeavoured to pick out from the recitals of the hon. Member what it is that he means to bring as a charge against me. If he means to bring as a charge against me my conduct with respect to this matter within the last few days, I assert that I have redeemed every engagement that I have entered into; and that I have not—except for the hon. Gentleman I do not suppose it is necessary for me to say this—done underground anything inconsistent with my expressed intentions. So much for my recent conduct. But what is the charge with respect to my past conduct that the hon. Gentleman desires to make? The House has heard him; and what was stated by him that constituted a charge or accusation against me or against the Government? He stated that my right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Trade had been in possession of certain information with which I was not acquainted. Well, I tell him that that I could not follow. I am not able to verify, or affirm, or contradict that statement; but, anyhow, it is a statement which does not concern myself.

MR. J. R. YORKE: In what I said I was merely drawing attention to the inconsistent accounts of these transactions given by different Members of the Government.

MR. GLADSTONE: The hon. Member rose to make a charge against me in particular, and I was looking through the chaff of the hon. Member's speech to see whether I could find a grain of wheat in it. I have now noticed some of the chaff, and I am coming to what may be called the single grain of corn that can be found in it. I cannot say to what the hon. Gentleman refers—whether he refers to something known to the President of the Board of Trade and not known to me. There are two things with regard to which I wish to say a word; and perhaps, therefore, I ought to say that there are two grains of corn in the hon. Member's speech. The hon. Gentleman gave me no Notice that he was to raise this question to-day, so that what I say is from recollection, and from reference to a volume of *Hansard* that has been brought to me with a speech made upon the occasion. But as my hon. Friend the Member for Aylesbury (Mr. G. Russell) has come into the House, I may refer to what was done by him in illustration of the accuracy of the hon. Gentleman's statement. The hon. Member holds me responsible for everything said or done by every hon. Gentleman on this side of the House. My hon. Friend (Mr. G. Russell), I have no doubt, is aware of the complimentary reference made to him in his absence by the hon. Member, who said that the judgment of the Government—perhaps, he said, the wish of the Prime Minister—was law to nine-tenths of the Gentlemen on this side of the House. There was an occurrence which, I think, illustrates the liberty with which the hon. Member for Aylesbury, in the perfectly just exercise of his discretion, of which I do not complain, interprets that law which the hon. Member opposite says depends upon the express wish of the Prime Minister. On the 7th of July there arose a question, which, differing from many persons in this House, I regarded as a very serious question, with respect to a provision in the Prevention of Crime Bill for searching private houses—a provision which the Lord Lieutenant had expressed his desire to surrender, and which I was extremely

Mr. J. R. YORKE: The right hon. Gentleman is, of course, in a position to give me a day whenever he chooses. That is perfectly within his power, and I contend that by his action in this matter he has entitled me to expect that he will do so.

Mr. GLADSTONE: The hon. Gentleman's contention is that the Government should interrupt the Procedure debates. That is what we will not do, and what I never engaged to do, and never held out any expectation of doing. It appears, then, there are only two charges—first of all, that my right hon. Friend (Mr. W. E. Forster), in the choice of his own language, used a word which I submit to be inapplicable, and which, so far as my views and my share in this business are concerned, and the views of all my Colleagues, every one of them, so far as I am acquainted, has nothing whatever to justify it; and with respect to the non-production of documents, I have also stated that I should have felt myself exceedingly deficient in the feelings which ought to prevail between one Member and another had I placed the hon. Member for the City of Cork under any sort of coercion or disadvantage with regard to the production of that letter. There are those who seem to think that because we have taken the gravest exception to the conduct, as we viewed it, of the hon. Member for the City of Cork at a former period, therefore we are to treat him as a man convicted on a criminal charge, or in some way or other disparaged and deprived of all right to our courteous attention and the ordinary consideration that prevails between Members of Parliament because of our opinion and impression about his conduct, and because of the steps we, in our responsibility, have taken. That was not my view of the matter at all. I was bound to proceed towards a Member in every matter of courtesy and consideration precisely as I should have done to any Member in this House. I will not go into the speech of the hon. Member, except in regard to one point. He wants a day for the discussion of this matter. Well, if the House of Commons chooses to prolong this Session for the purpose, it is open to the hon. Gentleman to raise that question. But with respect to the interruption of the important Business of Procedure, which I have steadily declined to interrupt for

the sake of the Egyptian Question, for the sake of the Arrears Aot, for the sake of every other public question that has been raised, I distinctly and positively decline to interrupt it for the sake of the Motion of the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER: I assure the House I am not going to detain it more than a few minutes. I am strongly of opinion that there is no public advantage in this Motion made to-day, or in the Motion which the hon. Member has given Notice of; and I would not have risen at all but that I feel it my duty to correct an impression which might be thought—though I do not think it was intended—to be conveyed by the speech of the hon. Member. I understood him to say that a certain letter and Memorandum would not have come before the public had they not been brought forward by others than the Members of the Government.

Mr. J. R. YORKE: I said that matters were commented on at the time which required explanation. I did not go further than that.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER: Well, no allusion would have been made by me to the letter of the hon. Member for the City of Cork if it had not been read in the House, and I thought it necessary to correct the mistake; nor would any allusion have been made by me to the conversation I had with the hon. Gentleman the Member for Clare (Mr. O'Shea), except that I thought it necessary to correct what I thought was a mistaken account; and in order to show that I really had some grounds for what I stated I produced a Memorandum which I had drawn up at the time, and which I sent to my right hon. Friend. I thought it only due to myself, and I should never have divulged any of these matters unless forced to do so, by hearing them alluded to in the House, as I considered, somewhat incorrectly. Just one other remark. The hon. Member (Mr. Yorke) dwelt a great deal on a difference of opinion between my right hon. Friend and myself as to what passed with regard to the release of the hon. Member for the City of Cork. I must adhere to my opinion that I did not use a wrong term in the matter; but that is not my right hon. Friend's opinion, and I dare say he is quite as likely—and perhaps more likely—to be

right than I am. I still think that what I said was the true version of the matter.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he would not discuss the arrangements of what was popularly known as the "Kilmainham Treaty;" but there was one remark of the Prime Minister which deserved an answer from that side of the House. The right hon. Gentleman had said that the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire (Mr. Yorke), and those who agreed with him, were in duty bound in the early part of the Session, when the matters in question were fresh in the memory, to have brought them to the test of an inquiry. That was the distinct counter-charge brought against his hon. Friend and his supporters, though at the time when the Treaty was engaging public attention, or immediately afterwards, the House was transacting its Business under the Rules of Urgency, and there was no opportunity whatever for moving for an inquiry. The right hon. Gentleman had charged him with having stated outside the House that which he would not state inside the House; but he had told the right hon. Gentleman that he was prepared to make the same statement in the House. The charges he had made were serious, so serious as fully to justify the right hon. Gentleman in challenging his hon. Friend to proceed to an inquiry. Indeed, his only wonder was that the right hon. Gentleman, on reading the speeches to which he referred—speeches to which he adhered, and for the very moderation of which he might almost apologize—had not at the time addressed his challenge to those who were in a position to demand an inquiry. Certainly, if he had had the ghost of a notion that an inquiry would be granted, he should have moved for it at the time. As for the charges against the Government, he had stated—to put the matter mildly—that the action of the Government came within a measurable distance of infamy; and he had also ventured to express an opinion that the act was scarcely distinguishable from an act of the grossest political corruption. That was the statement he made, fully accepting whatever responsibility attached to it. The right hon. Gentleman had said that a full opportunity for inquiry could have been found during the early part of the Session; but, after all, what op-

portunity was there? The Procedure Resolutions, commonly spoken of as the "Gagging Rules," did not then exist. ["Order!"]

MR. SPEAKER: I must point out to the right hon. Gentleman that he is bound to confine himself to the subject-matter involved in the Motion. He cannot discuss the Rules.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he was referring to the remark of the Prime Minister—that if any hon. Member had at the time accepted the responsibility, there were those who could have demanded an inquiry. The opportunities for discussion were most meagre during the earlier months of the Session, and it would have been almost useless for anyone to have brought on a Motion for Inquiry unless he had previously obtained the promise of facilities from the Government. The Prime Minister, having now promised to entertain a Motion for Inquiry, said he had afforded the promised facilities by moving the adjournment of the Procedure debate before half-past 12 o'clock. But how was that act received by his supporters? The moment he had offered to do it, the hon. Member for Stockton (Mr. Dodds) rose and gave Notice of opposition. The Motion was altered in its terms so as to obviate the objection of the Prime Minister to the wording of it; and then the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) put down a Motion which effectually prevented the matter being taken as an unopposed Motion, and by means of the Forms of the House had precluded the House of Commons from passing judgment on it. It had been said that the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister was not responsible for the Motion of the hon. Member for Northampton; but nobody, of course, alleged that the right hon. Gentleman had asked the hon. Member for Northampton to put down his Motion, or that indirect communications had passed. But it must be recollected that when the Prime Minister expressed his intention to grant facilities, he spoke of doing a day's work before he came to the House and a day's work in watching the discussion of the New Rules, so that he was not prepared to do a third day's work in listening to the debate on the hon. Member's Motion. What did that mean but that he was prepared to adopt, with regard to the sworn Member for Northampton, the policy adopted

with reference to the unsworn Member, when the Prime Minister ostentatiously abnegated his functions as Leader of the House and said—"You have got into a mess contrary to my advice, and you must get out of it how you can?" Then the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) asked the Prime Minister whether he would use his influence as Leader of the House to secure that the Motion should come on, and would provide a deputy to do his third day's work? He could not think that this was a trivial matter, as if it was of no concern. Distinct charges had been made against Her Majesty's Government as a whole, and into those charges they demanded an inquiry. Did the Government intend to grant that inquiry? If so, it was wholly illusory to tell his hon. Friend that they would move the adjournment of the Procedure debate at a quarter past 12, and then leave their Friends to talk out the Motion. It was equally futile to allege that they were keeping faith with the House of Commons by meeting in this manner the distinct pledge they had given. Those who deserved it were still entitled to ask whether the Government were *bona fide* prepared to facilitate the granting of such an inquiry as that which had been moved for by his hon. Friend the Member for East Gloucestershire.

MR. LABOUCHERE desired to say one word in explanation of the course which he had taken in this matter. He had the case of his own constituents to bring before the House, and, the Prime Minister having declined to give him a day, made the offer to the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire to allow his Motion to come on. Then, without any communication with the Prime Minister, he objected to the granting of any facilities which were denied to himself, accepting the Prime Minister's declaration that the House had been called together for a specific purpose with which the Government could not allow anything to interfere. He admitted that he had spoken on the Motion for Adjournment the other night in order to bring the hon. Member's Motion under the Half-past Twelve Rule. He thought that as his own Motion could not come on another ought not to do so. In the same way he had put down on the Notice Paper for every evening for the remainder of

the Session a number of sound Democratic Motions, with the object of preventing the hon. Member from gaining priority for his Motion. Since, however, the Speaker had declared that those Motions were irregular, he had taken them off the Paper; but he should infinitely prefer to see the House discussing these matters to its going into this absurd species of historical mares'-nesting which was opened up by the Motion of the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire. The noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) seemed to think that he had a monopoly of independence; he did not himself treat the Front Opposition Bench with much respect; and he thought, because the Ministerial Party did treat their Front Bench with respect, therefore they were not independent. Still, the noble Lord would find that he had spoken and voted against the Government twice as often as he had supported them. He regarded this Motion as an insult to the Prime Minister, and maintained that there ought to be a *prima facie* case made out for inquiry before it was granted. It was all very well for the Prime Minister, in a moment of generous impulse, to say that he would grant one; but it was a case in which his independent followers should step in and say that they would not have the time of the House wasted and the Prime Minister subjected to these insults.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, if the Motion was an insult to the Prime Minister, the right hon. Gentleman was in the extraordinary position of a man who had insulted himself, because the Motion would not have been dreamt of by his hon. Friend the Member for East Gloucestershire (Mr. Yorke) if it had not been passionately solicited by the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister had now refused, in every possible way, to give the hon. Member facilities for bringing it on. He thought the opinion of the public would be that there was something very dark and mysterious, not altogether very savory, about all the transactions from the extraordinary nervousness which had been betrayed by the Liberal Party, not so far as the Prime Minister was concerned, because he had conducted himself with extraordinary self-possession. Some people might call it something else. They had abused the Forms of the House, and had

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resorted to every kind of artifice; they had interrupted his hon. Friends, one after another, in order to prevent the Motion being brought on. He was reminded by those interruptions of a time when seven Irish Members had risen one after another and interrupted the Prime Minister and had been one after another suspended. He found it difficult himself to discern the difference between the action of the Irish Members and the action of those extremely nervous Members of the Liberal Party. There had been another curious point in the matter. The Prime Minister, who generally addressed the House with a great deal of facility, had on the present occasion been only able to address them after having received a great deal of assistance from his Colleagues. A Colleague of the right hon. Gentleman must have been exhausted by running in and out of the House to assist him in the references he thought it necessary to make. The Prime Minister had continually referred to the Home Secretary, although he could not see what assistance the right hon. Gentleman was likely to obtain from that right hon. Gentleman.

MR. GLADSTONE, interposing, observed that he did not appeal to the Home Secretary.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL accepted the statement of the Prime Minister. He saw a great deal of commotion on the Treasury Bench, and thought the right hon. Gentleman was conferring with the Home Secretary; but probably he was conferring with the noble Marquess. The right hon. Gentleman contrived to speak for 40 minutes or half-an-hour on this subject with a great deal of assistance, and when he sat down the House was not one bit wiser than when he got up; and as for his hon. Friend's Motion, he defied anybody to say whether the right hon. Gentleman wished for this inquiry, or whether he desired to draw back. The Prime Minister said it would require a much sharper blow than his hon. Friend could strike to rouse him to anger; but if the earlier parts of the right hon. Gentleman's speech were specimens of his geniality and good humour, he would only exclaim—"God preserve us when he is really angry." The place which he now occupied would become a great deal too unpleasant on account of its proximity

to the Treasury Bench. He had been referred to as having characterized this Kilmainham Treaty as a disgraceful transaction. Owing to the extraordinary course taken by hon. Members opposite, they could not go into this disgraceful transaction; but, at all events, it was so disgraceful that the Lord Lieutenant and the Chief Secretary resigned their Offices on account of it. The Prime Minister often talked about his inaccuracy—he thought the right hon. Gentleman said his constitutional inaccuracy—but he was dealing with facts, and one of the originators of this transaction said about it—

"I was very sorry that I had had anything whatever to do with the negotiation, though all I had to do with it was to get from the hon. Member for the City of Cork a promise not to break the law. I felt that I could have nothing more to do with it."

Those were the words of the late Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, who had, moreover, said he would have nothing more to do with it. It must, therefore, have been a disgraceful transaction. The Prime Minister said the inquiry ought to have been asked for at the time. He (Lord Randolph Churchill) was not present in the House when this subject was originally brought forward. He only wished he had been. If he might venture on a classical allusion, he would say that it reminded him of Paris after the Siege of Troy escaping from Diomedes and being saved by Venus, who had wrapped him in a cloud. In a similar manner, and by some interposition, Providential or otherwise, the Prime Minister had been preserved from his presence in the House on that occasion. At any rate, the country would know that the negotiation, arrangement, convention, treaty, or any other word which the enormous range of the Prime Minister's vocabulary might suit, there was something which had never seen the light of day, and which, so far as the Government were concerned, never would. When the other night the Prime Minister challenged his hon. Friend to move this Motion, the right hon. Gentleman reminded him of a well-known game of cards called "poker." When a player held very bad cards and had no likelihood of winning, he adopted the course of "bluffing." No doubt, it was imagined that his hon. Friend, intimidated by the grand man-

ner and the apparently good cards of the Prime Minister, would shrink from pursuing the inquiry. But, fortunately, his hon. Friend had three aces—courage, straightforwardness, and determination—and he met the Prime Minister's challenge boldly, and forced the right hon. Gentleman to show that his hand was an uncommonly bad one, which would not bear the inspection of the public. The Prime Minister and his Colleagues were in the unpleasant position of having challenged an inquiry into a transaction which had caused the resignation of two of their Colleagues, which was surrounded by every element of mystery; and, having challenged that inquiry, they and their supporters had used every artifice to evade it. The judgment of the public would be, after what had taken place that night, that there had been a Kilmainham Treaty, and that it was a disgraceful transaction.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he wished to be precisely accurate. He had stated that when he was speaking he had no communication with the Home Secretary; but he now understood that his right hon. Friend took a volume of *Hansard* from the noble Marquess and handed it to him.

MR. GEORGE RUSSELL, having been thrust into this discussion, desired to make a brief personal explanation. He would not follow the noble Lord in his references to the adventures of Diomedes and Hoyle's *Book of Games*, which appeared to be the noble Lord's Parliamentary *vade mecum*. The hon. Member for East Gloucestershire had quoted him as having said, in a recent debate, that for nine-tenths of the Liberal majority the Prime Minister's wish was law. He believed that he did make that observation in a debate, in the course of which the Prime Minister explained that it was a sufficient safeguard for the right of minorities to leave the right of moving the adjournment to the decision of a majority of the House, because, he said, a majority would be sure to give fair play. He was not particular about the form of the phrase, and perhaps it would be better to say that in nine cases out of ten the wish of the Prime Minister was law. While he did not revoke or modify the language which he used, he hoped the Prime Minister would understand that in making that statement he did not wish to cast any reflection on

the loyalty that existed among the Liberal Party, nor to imply that the right hon. Gentleman would make a wrong or a tyrannical use of that loyalty, yet occasions arose when Members of the Party felt reluctantly compelled to dissent from him.

MR. CHAPLIN wished to refer to one or two points which appeared to him to be conclusively in favour of the present Motion for Inquiry. If he ever had any doubt as to the propriety of such an inquiry, it would have been entirely removed by the attitude of the Liberal Party, which appeared to be stricken with panic whenever a suggestion was made that an inquiry should be instituted into the conduct of the Government on any point. The facts which had leaked out in reference to this Kilmainham business were such as to demand inquiry. The "suspects" had been imprisoned, the Government said, for the purposes of vindicating law and order, and of restoring peace and tranquillity in Ireland; but in a very short time they were released without any explanation, except that that course had been taken in order to restore peace and tranquillity to Ireland. The right hon. Gentleman now said that those sitting on the Opposition side of the House, if they were dissatisfied with the conduct of the Government in the matter, ought to have moved a Vote of Censure upon them at once. What more, however, could they do than they had done? On the very afternoon when the matter became public he had moved the adjournment of the House for the purpose of pressing the right hon. Gentleman to give a day to enable the Opposition to move a Vote of Censure upon the Government. Therefore, when the right hon. Gentleman blamed the Members of the Opposition for not having taken the course he indicated, he must have done so in ignorance or in forgetfulness. The right hon. Gentleman had told the House that the release of the prisoners had been made without any negotiations between the Government and the prisoners having been entered into previously; but the late Chief Secretary for Ireland (Mr. Forster) had repeated that night what he had said on several previous occasions—namely, that there were such negotiations. Surely, if there were no other reason for an inquiry, this strange and extraordinary inconsis-

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tency between two Members of the Cabinet would call for it. The Prime Minister had stated that night that the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) knew absolutely nothing as to the intentions of the Government with regard to future Irish legislation; but he was totally unable to reconcile that statement with the Memorandum drawn up by the late Chief Secretary, in which he referred to the fact of Mr. O'Shea giving him a letter from Mr. Parnell, expressing a hope that its terms might bring about a satisfactory union with the Liberal Party. The late Chief Secretary went on to state in that Memorandum that, having read the letter, he had asked Mr. O'Shea whether that was all that Mr. Parnell was inclined to say; and, on Mr. O'Shea asking him what more he wanted, he said—"It comes to this—upon our doing certain things, he will prevent outrages in Ireland." How, therefore, could the Prime Minister say, in the face of that Memorandum, that no negotiations were entered into with the hon. Member for the City of Cork? There was, moreover, the letter of the hon. Member for the City of Cork itself, and there was other evidence which went to prove most distinctly that the contention of the late Chief Secretary, that there were negotiations between the Government and the prisoners, was right, and that the contention of the Prime Minister, that there were none, was wrong. If the hon. Member for the City of Cork, in his letter, made a point of one thing more than another, it was this—that there should be a settlement of the Arrears Question. The hon. Member said—"I desire to impress upon you the absolute necessity of a settlement of the Arrears Question." And what had happened? Why, an Arrears Bill had been introduced by Her Majesty's Government framed upon the precise lines indicated by the hon. Member for the City of Cork. There were other matters referred to in that letter, such as the admission of the leaseholders to the advantages of the Land Act of 1881, and an alteration in the Tenure Clauses and Purchase Clauses of that Act, with regard to all of which the Government had given qualified undertakings to introduce measures at some future period. All these matters were of a most suspicious character; and the Government, on a matter

which they themselves admitted was vital to their character and their reputation, ought not to resist, but should facilitate inquiry, without which the Opposition would never remain satisfied.

Mr. EDWARD OLARKE did not know whether Her Majesty's Government proposed to allow this matter to rest with the lame and laboured statement of the Prime Minister. Towards the end of his speech on this subject on a former occasion, the Prime Minister had promised to give a day for the discussion of the subject after the discussion of the Procedure Rules was over. [Mr. GLADSTONE dissented.] He had heard the Prime Minister make the statement himself; and, difficult as it was sometimes to understand the right hon. Gentleman's meaning, he was quite clear upon the point. The right hon. Gentleman had stated that he would not, for this or for any other matter of Business, have the discussion upon the Procedure Resolutions interrupted, but that if the House was disposed to prolong its Sittings for another day, then a Motion on the subject might be made. That, however, was an idle challenge, for what was the use of appointing a Committee of Inquiry into the conduct of the Government on the last day of the Session, when the next day the Committee would be dissolved by the Prorogation? That challenge, however, had been thrown out so that the Government might be able to go through the country and declare that they were not afraid of an inquiry into the matter. The truth was that the Government were practically backing out of their pledge. For his own part, he believed that there were negotiations between the Government and the Kilmainham prisoners, and that there had been a treaty entered into with them. He regarded that treaty as a disgraceful transaction. He had said that elsewhere, and he intended to say so elsewhere again; and he used the expression now in order that he might not afterwards be taunted with saying that elsewhere which he was afraid to repeat in that House. There were sufficient materials before the House to show that certain action had been taken by the Government, and that certain other action had been taken by the hon. Member for the City of Cork and his Friends, both of which actions were in accordance with the terms of the agree-

ment entered into, as indicated by the letter of the latter. It had been shown that an hon. Member of that House had, with the knowledge and with the authority of the Government, passed several hours with the hon. Member for the City of Cork, and that he had come as an ambassador from Kilmainham with the formulated terms of an agreement, and that he was authorized to take them back if they were not approved; that they were submitted to the late Chief Secretary for Ireland, and were circulated throughout the Cabinet, who had power to release the hon. Member for the City of Cork if they thought fit to do so. But they knew something more than this. On the day after this interview with the Chief Secretary, the Kilmainham ambassador saw the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade, and discussed with him the propriety of omitting the passage relating to the union of the Irish Party with the Liberal Party, and he was told by the right hon. Gentleman that it would be better that nothing should be said about that passage. The right hon. Gentleman, who knew that the question of the release of the "suspects" was being discussed by the Cabinet, said nothing of that passage to his Colleagues.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN said, that the hon. and learned Gentleman was mistaken. The letter itself was placed before the Cabinet.

Mr. EDWARD CLARKE said, that the right hon. Gentleman now said that the whole letter—passage and all—was before the Cabinet. If that were so, they were getting a little deeper into the matter. Then this passage, which promised the support of the Irish Party to the Government, was before the Cabinet when they decided to release the prisoners. In that case, the whole Cabinet must bear the reproach of allowing that letter to be read in that House with that passage deliberately suppressed. The Prime Minister had said that nothing was given to the hon. Member for the City of Cork. But something was given—the order of release was given. [Mr. GLADSTONE: Hear, hear!] The hon. Member for the City of Cork said, in effect—"Let me out, and you shall have my support in the suppression of outrage, and my support of the Liberal Party in future." That was the substance of a passage contained in the

letter written by the hon. Member for the City of Cork and brought by his ambassador to the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think it right to point out to the hon. and learned Member that he is now going far beyond the distinct statement which the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire desired to bring under the notice of the House. The hon. Member for East Gloucestershire desired to bring under the notice of the House the conduct of the Government with reference to refusing facilities for bringing on this matter. The hon. and learned Member for Plymouth is now going into the matter at large.

Mr. EDWARD CLARKE said, he was under the impression that his observations were relevant to the immediate Question before the House, because his charge against the Government was that they were shrinking from the challenge which the Prime Minister himself had given. The House could now understand what sort of challenge it was that the Prime Minister threw down. He challenged the hon. Member to bring forward a Motion. He said—"Move for your inquiry, and we will accept your Motion;" but now he shrank from that challenge. When the Motion for the adjournment of the debate was moved at 10 minutes past 12 one night, the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) got up to talk against time, and he admitted to-night that such had been his intention. If the Prime Minister had expressed his wish that the Motion should be brought forward, was it credible that the hon. Member for Northampton and other hon. Members opposite would have opposed the Motion? One word from the Prime Minister would have afforded an opportunity of bringing this matter on, and would have enabled the House to discuss with fulness a subject upon which the country felt very strongly—a transaction which he believed was a disgraceful transaction, and one the full and free discussion of which the Government dared not face.

Question put, and *negatived*.

[The following is the Entry in the Votes.]

Mr. Reginald Yorke, Member for East Gloucestershire, rose in his place, and asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent

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public importance; but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those Members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than forty Members having accordingly risen in their places:—

Motion made, and Question, "That this House do now adjourn," put, and *negatived*.

EGYPT—ARABI PASHA.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the statement was correct that had appeared in yesterday's morning papers that the Egyptian Government was now prepared to leave it to the British Government to decide whether the evidence was sufficient to enable the trial of Arabi Pasha to be proceeded with?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: It is impossible for me to know what is the private intention of the Egyptian Government; but, so far, no statement of the kind referred to has been made to Her Majesty's Government.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—ELEVENTH RULE (CONSIDERATION OF A BILL, AS AMENDED).

[TWENTY-NINTH NIGHT.]

Order read, for resuming Further Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure.

MR. GLADSTONE, in rising to move the 11th Resolution as follows:—

"That, on reading the Order of the Day for the Consideration of a Bill, as amended, the House do proceed to consider the same without Question put, unless the Member in charge thereof shall desire to postpone its consideration, or notice has been given to re-commit the Bill,"

said, the object of the Resolution was to bring the details of the Bill immediately before the House, and to do away with the intermediate stage between Committee and the consideration of the Bill, as amended.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That, on reading the Order of the Day for the Consideration of a Bill, as amended, the House do proceed to consider the same without Question put, unless the Member in charge

thereof shall desire to postpone its consideration, or notice has been given to re-commit the Bill." —(*Mr. Gladstone.*)

Amendment made, in line 1, by leaving out the words "on reading," and inserting the word "when," instead thereof.—(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Amendment made, in line 2, by inserting, after the word "amended," "in Committee of the whole House has been read."—(*Mr. Beresford Hope.*)

MR. GORST, in rising to move, in line 2, after the words "as amended"—

"Unless in the opinion of the Speaker the scope of such Bill has been materially altered or enlarged in Committee,"

said, that the object of the Amendment was to enable a debate to be raised upon a Bill where it had undergone considerable alteration in Committee. For instance, in the case of the Arrears Bill, provisions were inserted in Committee, relating to the purchase of small tenements, of which there was no trace in the Bill on the second reading. In such cases it was very convenient that there should be a discussion on the whole Bill as amended.

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the foregoing Amendment, to insert the words "unless in the opinion of the Speaker the scope of such Bill has been materially altered or enlarged in Committee." —(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. GLADSTONE said, the objection to the Amendment was that it would refer that matter to the opinion of the Speaker and impose on him without necessity an additional burden—a thing which was undesirable. If a Bill had been seriously and vitally altered in Committee, it would be perfectly competent for any Member to move that it be re-committed, in order to raise a discussion and call attention to the changes it had undergone, even although he might not intend to persist in his Motion. Again, in Committee, after the Bill had been gone through, the Chairman must put the Question, "That I report the Bill, as amended, to the House;" and then there would be a full opportunity for discussing the whole of the Amendments which had been made in it. Thus there were actually two occasions for raising such a discussion

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as the hon. and learned Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst) contemplated; and his Amendment was, therefore, unnecessary.

Mr. SOLATER-BOTH said, he thought they ought to be careful how they allowed Members to be ousted from their opportunities of opposing the further progress of a Bill which had been materially altered in Committee. Although it might not be right to require the Speaker to give an opinion as to the extent to which a Bill had been altered, it would, on the other hand, be rather hard if Members objecting to the measure so altered could only take the course of moving its re-committal, which might be highly inconvenient, and not what they desired.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT said, that they had often found Bills so greatly and materially altered in Committee that it was necessary that the House should afterwards consider them on coming up for Report. If the right to discuss Bills at that stage was abolished, the House would lose all opportunity of criticizing the details of a measure after it had passed through Committee. The House should remember that it was hampering itself by new Rules and Regulations in every way; and from what they had seen already, it was clear that the Government would not be slow to put them in force. There was little doubt that, next Session, the Government would have two or three first-class Bills passing through the House at the same time, and that was a further reason why the discussion on the Report stage should not be done away with. Experience would show in the future, as it had demonstrated in the past, that Bills would be materially altered in going through Committee; and if the present Rule, as proposed by the Government, should pass, there would be no opportunity of considering the changes made in any measure. The reason why the legislation of that House had been so successful and so satisfactory was because it had been carefully considered at every stage. This would not be the case if they got into the habit of driving measures hastily through the House. That was not the wish of the country, although he knew that several right hon. Gentlemen on the Treasury Bench were most anxious that certain measures of their own should be driven through

the House. The noble Marquess the Secretary of State for India had declared that this was the reason why he was desirous of seeing the *cloture* passed, and the President of the Board of Trade had frankly admitted that his object in supporting the Rule was to get certain measures passed by Parliament. That being so, he (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) viewed with reluctance every proposal made to abridge the liberties of Members; and if the hon. and learned Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst) went to a division with his Amendment he should vote for it.

Mr. J. LOWTHER said, that the present Government once brought in a Bill professedly for the philanthropic and harmless object of relieving distress in Ireland; but during the progress of the measure through Committee they attempted to introduce into it wholly different and highly contentious matter, to which serious exception was taken by Members sitting in various parts of the House, and which related to what was called compensation for disturbance. That was an illustration of the great abuse which might occur under the system which the Government desired to establish. In future, those who had been somewhat disrespectfully referred to as private-Bill-mongers might have a strong temptation presented to them to introduce apparently harmless Bills which might afterwards be converted into substantially different measures, and would have virtually to be swallowed by the House without the discussion of their principle. The House ought, therefore, to have an opportunity of debating, at the stage of Report, the principle of a Bill, which might, perhaps, have assumed an entirely new aspect during its progress through Committee.

Mr. STANLEY LEIGHTON said, that if a Bill had been altered and come out of Committee a different measure, or materially changed, a second opportunity of considering it was necessary. The Chairman or the Speaker might safely be trusted to determine whether any serious alteration had been made, and might be allowed to shape its future course, having regard to that fact.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he agreed that Bills had sometimes gone up into Committee and had come back again materially altered. It had always

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struck him that there ought to be some provision for considering Bills passed through Committee for the purpose of pointing out what was the effect of the Amendments made there. That might be an inconvenient rule if invariably followed; but where considerable Amendments were adopted it would be found of the greatest utility. In that way the inconsistency so often complained of by Judges, and difficulties of interpretation, would be largely avoided.

MR. GIBSON said, he might remind the House that they had already accepted a modification of the Half-past Twelve Rule; and they must carefully bear in mind the fact that certain Bills not formerly affected by that Rule would, in future, come within its operation.

MR. DODSON said, that the Amendment then before the House would not meet the wishes of the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire; but if such a step were to be taken at all, it would come more usefully when the House had decided finally upon the form the Bill was to take.

Amendment proposed, at the end of the foregoing Amendment, to insert the words "the Question shall be put forthwith that."—(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. GLADSTONE said, he distinctly objected to the Amendment, as it would remove the chief benefit of the Rule.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment proposed, in line 4, after "or," leave out "notice has been given."—(*Mr. Monk.*)

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Resolution."

MR. GLADSTONE said, he would accept the Amendment, substituting the words "or a Motion shall be made."

Amendment, as amended, *agreed to*.

MR. SCLATER-BOOTH said, he wished to move an Amendment which would have the effect of preventing a Bill, as amended, being proceeded with where a Motion should be made to oppose or re-commit the Bill.

Amendment proposed, in line 4, after the word "to," to insert the words "oppose or."—(*Mr. Sclater-Booth.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'oppose or' be there inserted."

MR. GLADSTONE said, he must oppose the Amendment, as it would strike at the whole principle of the Rule.

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE maintained that if this Rule were amended in the direction proposed, they might as well have no such Standing Order.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Main Question, as amended, put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 57; Noes 27: Majority 30.—(Div. List, No. 396.)

(11.) *Resolved*, That when the Order of the Day for the Consideration of a Bill, as amended, in the Committee of the whole House, has been read, the House do proceed to consider the same without Question put, unless the Member in charge thereof shall desire to postpone its consideration, or a Motion shall be made to re-commit the Bill.

THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—

TWELFTH RULE (NOTICES ON GOING INTO COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY).

MR. GLADSTONE, in moving the 12th Resolution, which was as follows:—

"That, whenever the Committee of Supply stands as the first Order of the Day on any day except Friday evening, on which Government Orders have precedence, Mr. Speaker shall leave the Chair without putting any Question, unless on first going into Supply on the Army, Navy, or Civil Service Estimates respectively, or on any Vote of Credit, an Amendment be moved, or Question raised, relating to the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply,"

said, that the Resolution was one of considerable importance. It rested on the ground that the practice which it proposed to deal with was of rather modern date, and that that practice had been of significant effect on the Business of the House only during the last 10 or 20 years. In the year 1811 the first instance occurred, according to Sir Erskine May, of a Motion, the nature of which was now so familiar—namely, against going into Committee of Supply. Up to 1820 there were only three or four such Motions. Up to 1837, embracing five years after the Reform Act, when the great change in the Business took place,

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there were about two cases each year, and up to 1860 no more than 11. But during the last 10 years the cases had increased to 33 actually moved, besides the discussions raised and other incidental proceedings, which were about as many more. That showed that the item was becoming a serious and important one in the Business of the House. Of course, it was not to be denied that they were making a serious demand upon independent Members. In the course of the debates he had heard statements to the effect that the Government only were interested in those Resolutions. But in some of them at least private Members were equally interested. How was the time of the House now divided? In the first place, the Government were liable to have a very considerable portion of their evenings blocked up by unlimited questions. The Question time belonged to private Members; and, therefore, it was not accurate to say that even on Mondays and Thursdays the Government had the whole time. Independent Members had Question time on five days of the week, Tuesdays for Motions, Wednesdays for Bills, and Fridays for Notices on going into Supply. The latter they did not propose to interfere with. The result was that two days a-week were given to the Government, and more than three to independent Members, against which there was to be set whatever advantage was obtained by the Government by Morning Sittings in the latter part of the Session. The object they had in view in reforming the conduct of Business was to facilitate both independent Members' and Government legislation; but it was the Government Business which had most egregiously failed of late years. In consequence, they thought they might reasonably ask from the House that, excepting on days as expressed in the Resolution, when the Army, Navy, or Miscellaneous Estimates were brought forward, there should be no preliminary Motions on going into Committee of Supply. They thought that that additional time would be a division of the time of the House which was just, and, on the whole, not illiberal towards independent Members. In making this demand they acknowledged the authority of the House, and they put it before the House as a rational and a fair demand,

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in the conviction that the House would give it just consideration and a favourable reception.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That, whenever the Committee of Supply stands as the first Order of the Day on any day, except Friday evening, on which Government Orders have precedence, Mr. Speaker shall leave the Chair without putting any Question, unless on first going into Supply on the Army, Navy, or Civil Service Estimates respectively, or on any Vote of Credit, an Amendment be moved, or Question raised, relating to the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply."—(*Mr. Gladstone.*)

Mr. SALT rose to move, in line 1, after the first word "That," to insert—

"The usual statement by the Minister in charge of the Army or Navy Estimates, or by the Vice President of the Committee of Council, shall be made, the Speaker being in the Chair, on the Motion 'That Mr. Speaker do leave the Chair,' and that."

The effect of the Amendment would be to enable the Minister to make his statement at a much earlier period than he could under the present Regulations of the House; while, at the same time, it would not curtail the rights of private Members. It was proposed in the year 1857 by Mr. Wilson to make the statement on the Civil Service Estimates with the Speaker in the Chair; but the proposal was not then received with much favour. The right hon. Member for Westminster (Mr. W. H. Smith) in 1877, when he was Secretary to the Treasury, proposed to follow the same course; and the noble Lord the late Member for Liverpool (Viscount Sandon) in the same year made a similar proposition with regard to the Education Estimates. The course he suggested was not adopted on those occasions; but no objection was taken on principle, but only on the ground that due notice had not been given. The principle, in fact, was very generally approved; and Mr. Raikes, who was temporarily not a Member of the House, said that a more satisfactory change could not be introduced.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, after the first word "That," to insert the words "the usual statement by the Minister in charge of the Army or Navy Estimates, or by the Vice President of the Committee of Council, shall be made, the Speaker being in the Chair, on the Motion 'That Mr. Speaker do leave the Chair,' and that."—(*Mr. Salt.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. RYLANDS said, that the Amendment of the hon. Member in its present shape would produce great inconvenience, because, after a Minister had made his statement with the Speaker in the Chair, a Member who had on the Paper some Notice on going into Supply would interpose and the discussion which ought to follow immediately upon the statement of the Minister would be interfered with, and at last would be taken in the most inconvenient manner. He would prefer that Mondays, and Mondays alone, should be set down for going into Supply without any Motions by independent Members, and that no other Government Business should be allowed to displace Supply on those days. But he had seen Mondays which the Government professed to keep for Supply appropriated to other Business, and the consequence was that they had to scamper through Supply in July and August. He recollected the right hon. Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote), the cause of whose absence they all deplored, making, when Chancellor of the Exchequer, a very important statement with the Speaker in the Chair, and Gentlemen who felt interested in the subject desired to follow. But his hon. and gallant Friend (Colonel Nolan) had a Motion on the Paper with respect, he believed, to rifled guns, and brought it on, three or four Gentlemen spoke to it, and it was with great difficulty that the discussion was brought back to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement. He was therefore opposed to the Amendment of the hon. Gentleman the Member for Stafford.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT said, there was a great deal to be said in favour of the Amendment of his hon. Friend (Mr. Salt). There could be no doubt that it would be a great convenience to Members of the Ministry to be able to come down to the House, and so avoid the desultory conversations which generally happened when any question such as the hon. Member referred to arose. They must admit that whenever a certain responsible statement was made within a fair and reasonable time, the House had an opportunity of traversing the whole of it, and were able to bring to bear upon it that criticism which was so essential to the interest of the country. Therefore, so far as he could judge of the whole question, whilst giving his Friend every

credit for a desire to save the time of the House, yet he thought it would not be for the best interests of the country that the Amendment should now be adopted. He (Sir Walter B. Barttelot) thought the proposition of the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands) was about the best that could be made, if the Government were prepared to say that they would take Monday, and Monday alone, for he believed that the House would give them that day. But if they did not do so, he thought they would involve the House in a serious position. He recollected serving on a Select Committee in 1871, when the present Lord Sherbrooke (then Mr. Lowe) was in the Chair, and Lord Beaconsfield (then Mr. Disraeli) was on the Committee. The proposal of the Government of that day was precisely the same as it was at this moment, with one exception. They gave up the whole of Friday; and if the House would now remark, the Government put down Friday evening, clearly showing that they were going to take Friday morning for Committee. What happened on that Committee, however, was that Mr. Disraeli said—"Oh, no; we cannot stand your taking all these days; but we will give you Monday." The right hon. and learned Member for Whitehaven (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) then, perhaps, not exactly in that Parliamentary language some would desire, said—"This is a job between the two Front Benches, and I will oppose that," and Monday clear and simple was assigned to the Government. But what use did they make of it? Was Supply put down for Monday? No. Supply was brought in late again that year, and did not get finished in sufficient time. The way in which Supply had been brought in this House in recent years had been an absolute scandal to the House. This year they had had many questions of Supply brought in at 1, 2, and even 3 o'clock in the morning, owing, as they were told, to the exigencies of Business; and they succumbed to the inevitable. By the proposals that had now been made to the House, they were asking private Members to give up an amount of time they could not spare. The Prime Minister had told them it was part of his scheme that they were to have early Morning Sittings on Tuesdays to get through the

Business, and that the Evening Sitting should be relegated to private Members. Again, there was the proposal to have Morning Sittings on Fridays; but how would hon. Members be able to carry on any discussion at 9 o'clock on a Friday evening at the end of the week, after they had been sitting there hour after hour during so many nights? They had never sat so late in recent years as since the present Government came into power. They had sat there until 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning, passing legislation for them. They had now passed 11 of the most stringent Rules that possibly could have been made, and they were now asked by the Government to pass a 12th, which would absolutely annihilate private Members' rights. Let the Government take Monday for Supply. That would not only settle the question in five minutes, and satisfy the House, but also satisfy the country.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he agreed that it would be an advantage to have the Ministerial statement in a full House; but there was the inconvenience that the discussion would very likely be broken off by some Member who might have a Motion on the Paper on a totally different subject. The question was one of the balance of inconvenience. The Government would naturally claim the largest slice of the cake; but they ought not to get too much, or to misuse their share of the public time. As his hon. and gallant Friend had said, the result would be perfectly satisfactory if the Government took Monday for Supply on the understanding that Supply alone would be the work of that day, and that not more than one Vote of Credit would ever be asked for. As for Tuesdays, why should not the private Members take the Morning, and the Government the Evening Sittings? If the Government wished to pass this Rule with anything like unanimity, they would have to revert to the old Rule of leaving to private Members the time they had, and being content with Mondays.

MR. DODSON said, that the Rule recommended by the Committee of 1871 gave the Government more days than Monday for Supply. There seemed to be conclusive objections to this Amendment. The effect of it would seem to be that when a statement had been made, on going into Committee the subjects

dealt with would be discussed in a desultory way in Committee, and much of the Minister's statement would have to be repeated. It was better that the statement should be made in Committee, when the Minister could be followed by Members who could speak as often as they liked.

MR. J. LOWTHER said, he believed there was a great deal to be said in favour of the view of the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands), and he could not support the Amendment which would give the Government not only every Supply night, but also what were called first nights. There was a great practical inconvenience in a Minister who had an important statement to make waiting for hours while a variety of subjects were discussed. It ought to be positively known when a Minister would make such a statement. It was a grave question whether they should part with the Constitutional right of stating grievances before granting Supply. It might be that the practice dated from 1811; but it must be remembered that there were formerly other opportunities of calling attention to grievances, and most able speeches had been made on the presentation of Petitions. He had objected strongly to any Government taking Supply on Monday night before the statement of grievance, and he could only regret that his political Friends had not always been staunch to the Constitutional doctrine. He hoped the Government would not insist on the Resolution as it stood, and that they would consider whether it left Members due facilities for calling attention to grievances before Supply.

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE said, he was glad the Government had not adhered to the original form of the Resolution, but had incorporated an Amendment of which he had given Notice. This Rule would be as effectual as any in advancing Public Business, and it would operate quite as much in favour of the private Member as of the Government. At present, early in the Session, private Members disorganized the Business of the Government, and later on the Government retaliated, with the result that the weakest went to the wall.

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK: I rise to Order. The noble Lord is not confining himself to the Amendment.

Sir Walter B. Barttelot

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE said, he was replying to the right hon. Gentleman who had just spoken. Was it supposed that the redress of grievance before Supply only dated from 1811, when the practice was introduced of stating grievances on going into Committee of Supply? The practice of Motions on going into Committee of Supply only began in the year 1811. The evidence of Mr. Bouverie was clear that the practice was by no means of ancient date; and Lord Eversley, in his evidence before a Committee of the House in February, 1861, said that if he could put a stop to the practice he would do so. Before 1811 Notices of Motion always took precedence of Orders of the Day. The present practice, beginning in 1811, was developed gradually; at first, two such Motions were, on the average, made each Session; but by degrees there grew to be no limit to the number. He hoped the Government would stand by their Rule.

MR. E. STANHOPE said, he thought the Amendment, taken by itself, was objectionable, because its effect would be to take away even the small modicum of time for discussing private Motions which the Government proposed to leave hon. Members. At the same time, it touched one of the greatest grievances which they had to endure. It was monstrous that Ministers of the Crown should have to make important statements at 12 o'clock at night. The Rule would make things worse than ever, and would be found so intolerable as to require speedy alteration.

MR. GORST said, that the hon. Member for Stafford (Mr. Salt) had said that it was inconvenient that Ministerial statements should be made in Committee; and the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands) had said it was inconvenient that they should be made with the Speaker in the Chair. He would ask was it necessary that they should be made at all? They were, after all, generally long and uninteresting speeches, full of details which were supplied by the clerks of the various Departments—the War Office, the Treasury, the Admiralty—and could easily be printed and distributed as official Reports. He intended to move that a printed statement by the Minister in charge of the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply should have been at

least one week previously circulated among the Members of the House.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he hoped the Government would adopt the proposal of the hon. and learned Member for Chatham.

MR. SPEAKER: I must point out that the matter cannot be properly discussed until the Amendment of the hon. and learned Member for Chatham is before the House.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. GORST moved to omit the word "whenever," in line 1, the effect being to make the Resolution begin with a statement that Supply should be the first Order of the Day on Monday. Since he had had the honour of a seat in the House there had not been a single case in which the Dockyards Vote had been discussed before August. In order that the Government might carry their Bills, Supply was put off week after week and month after month, until it was hurried through at the end of the Session. His Amendment was an attempt to bring home to the mind of the House its duty with regard to Supply, and to secure, as far as possible, that that duty should be efficiently performed.

Amendment proposed, in line 1, to leave out the word "whenever."—(Mr. Gorst.)

Question proposed, "That the word 'whenever' stand part of the Question."

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, that if there were any Members who desired that the Government should pass no Bills at all they ought to support this proposal. The consequence of the Amendment, if carried, would be that the Government would only have four days for carrying their Bills. The proposal of the hon. and learned Member meant simply that the Notice Paper would be choked with Motions on going into Committee of Supply, and the very reason for which they were proposing these Resolutions—namely, to facilitate Public Business—would be frustrated. All Members, therefore, who desired that the Government should do more legislative Business than at present would vote against the Amendment.

MR. GIBSON said, he thought that there were several fallacies in the ob-

servations of the Home Secretary. The question was not whether the Government should have facilities for pressing on their Bills, but whether they were justified in the wholesale appropriation of the time heretofore at the disposal of private Members. Under the Rules that now existed the Government had no power to put down Supply, unless Members had a correlative right of discussing their grievances. The Government proposed to grapple with the inconvenience, the existence of which everyone admitted, by taking every day in the week except Friday evening. It was indicated as clearly as possible in the Resolution that the Government intended to take Friday morning, and to leave the Friday evening only to private Members. For his part he was not disposed to acquiesce in the proposal of the Government. It would greatly tend to shorten the discussion if the Government indicated what concession with respect to the time of the House they would be prepared to make to private Members. In such a Rule as the present there were two evils to be guarded against. The first was to take care that Supply was not finished too rapidly, and the second to take care that Supply was not postponed till too late in the Session. It would cause both inconvenience and disaster if Supply were finished too early in the Session, for it was desirable that it should be kept open, in order that independent Members might have some control over the Government. If the Amendment now before the House would have the effect of causing Supply to be finished too soon, it would be an objection to it; but no such objection had been urged by the Home Secretary. The other inconvenience—that of postponing Supply till late in the Session—might arise under the Rule. It would be quite possible for the Government to use up all their Government days to pass those measures which they said the country was so anxious for; and when the House was wearied out, as it now was, when only 100 Members were present to discuss the most vital changes in the organization of the House, the Government could take four days in the week for Supply. It would be impossible, then, for a wearied House to adequately discuss the Estimates, and the Votes would be passed without discussion, and serious injury be done. That monstrous

Mr. Gibson

inconvenience he was not prepared to face. It was very well to tell them that they could rely upon the Government. They had a right to be suspicious of the Government, and they were bound to take care that Rules were not passed which would enable the Government to postpone Supply until it could not be adequately discussed. He believed that if the Rule were passed in its present shape such a power would undoubtedly be given.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, that on that side of the House they were anxious to facilitate Government Business, but they did not wish private Members to be entirely crushed out. They were told at the commencement of these discussions by the Prime Minister that in all probability Tuesday would be taken a short time after the commencement of the Session as a Government night. Private Members would then only be able to bring on their Motions at 9 o'clock. They could not keep a House then, and therefore only Friday evening remained to them. He would suggest that private Members should be given Tuesday morning, and that Supply should be taken on Tuesday evening.

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he understood the Home Secretary to state that it was a question whether the House preferred legislation or Supply, and the right hon. and learned Gentleman seemed to prefer that Supply should be thrown over to a late part of the Session. [Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT denied that he had said anything of the kind.] That was how he understood the right hon. and learned Gentleman's words. For himself, he was inclined to think that the country would be better pleased with its Representatives if they gave more attention to Supply. Supply ought to be taken early in the Session, and not thrown late; and if the Prime Minister was anxious that the finances of the country should be conducted with the care which he had so often expressed, it was not easy to see how he should object to that Amendment.

SIR EDWARD COLEBROOKE said, he thought it would be convenient that they should dispose of the Amendment of the hon. and learned Member for Chatham before they went further into that discussion. Afterwards they would have an opportunity of discussing the serious and vital question whether they

should give the Government every day of the week except Friday, and thus give them such a command over the time of the House that they might have the power of lengthening or shortening the Session almost as much as they pleased. He thought the Amendment had better be withdrawn.

MR. R. N. FOWLER said, he thought that the effect of the Resolution would be to hand over the whole time of the House to the Government, and practically to extinguish the rights of private Members, and he, therefore, protested earnestly against it. Morning Sittings were to be taken early in the Session on Tuesdays and Fridays, and that meant "a count out" in the evening. The Government would not have a reason for keeping a House on Friday; and even if a House were then kept, private Members would only have in the whole week the four hours from 9 o'clock to 1 in order to bring forward the questions in which they and their constituents were interested.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he must complain of the exaggeration of those who said the Government would have every day of the week. It was nothing of the kind. As to Morning Sittings commencing early in the Session, they would commence at such a period of the Session as the House might think fit. There, however, was an evident jealousy about Morning Sittings; and he, therefore, thought the better way of dealing with the matter was to postpone it, and to disarm that jealousy by taking no power at all under this Resolution with respect to Morning Sittings. It would then become simply a Monday and Thursday Resolution. If the House found occasion, it could hereafter make any modification it chose in regard to Morning Sittings. To give the Government Monday alone would be to give them what was insufficient in amount; and, moreover, it would give it in the worst possible form. It was impossible to conceive a worse arrangement than to say to the Government that they were to take Supply every Monday and legislation every Thursday. That meant delay, long intervals, and feebleness of discussion. The Government had said they did not wish to obtain any distinct or definite concession from the House as to Morning Sittings. They had reserved their liberty, according to their experi-

ence, to propose Morning Sittings on Tuesdays at an early period of the Session, if they found that independent Members did not choose to employ the Evening Sitting in discussing their own Motions. That surely was not a very violent or extravagant thing to suggest. However, they were willing to dismiss the whole of that subject from the Resolution, and to take the minimum boon, which he thought the House would be disposed to give them; that was the power of proceeding with Supply with something like consecutiveness on Mondays and Thursdays, and, when it was convenient, to use both Mondays and Thursdays for the purposes of legislation. The right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite (Mr. Gibson), influenced by a most powerful imagination, actually feared that Supply might be prematurely finished. [Mr. Gibson dissented.] At all events, the right hon. and learned Gentleman thought it worth while to argue that Supply might finish prematurely, and then the control of the House would be lost. Now, it would not be lost or weakened in the slightest degree. The control of the House depended not on Supply, but on the Appropriation Act, and the Appropriation Act was not touched by that Resolution. Then it was said that Supply might be thrown very late. That was a practical evil with which they were now struggling. That Resolution was a Resolution in favour of full and effective discussion on Supply. Hon. Gentlemen often found themselves so hampered when they desired to discuss the Estimates in detail that they were almost powerless; and when the Government asked for Mondays and Thursdays in order to go into Supply, they meant that when it got into Supply the House might return to the full performance of its primary duty of considering, criticizing, and curtailing, if they could, the demands made by the Government for the Public Service. Probably the first two months' experience of the next Session would enable them to judge in some manner of the working of the new system; and if it were found necessary to introduce a new regulation as to Tuesdays and Fridays, the matter might then be discussed.

MR. CHAPLIN said, that the right hon. Gentleman forgot the immense number of private Members' nights recently taken by the Government. He

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did not think it was any exaggeration to say that the Motion of the hon. Member would take the whole of private Members' nights, and they must remember that next Session they had to look forward to fresh Irish legislation. No doubt, the Prime Minister stated last night that no fresh departure was in contemplation; but that was no guarantee that none would take place. They might have to consider some measure of Home Rule more or less modified. The Government said they would be content with the Mondays and Thursdays, but for how long? Would the Prime Minister guarantee that they should have them for the whole Session? One of the weakest arguments the Prime Minister had ever used was that in favour of continuity of legislation, and of pressing it forward speedily. If they had not advanced it continuously from day to day, perhaps there would not now be so great an outcry for the introduction of amending Acts. Judging from the past, they might well think that if measures were not hurried through Parliament with such speed they would be spared the fiascos they had so often seen of late in Government legislation.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he thought the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) was right in saying that the Prime Minister, in first introducing the Rules, had referred to the intention of the Government to take Tuesday nights.

MR. GLADSTONE: What I said was that, in view of the fact that the House had been counted out on 16 Tuesdays, the Government might feel it their duty to obviate so great a waste of public time.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the effect, at any rate, would be that Friday alone would remain at the disposal of private Members. He did not think that even the Government expected to pass their Rule in the form presented to the House. One of the great objections to the old practice was the frequent taking of Votes on Account. There was no great objection to taking one Vote on Account; but the repetition of such Votes was greatly to be deprecated, and he wished to give formal Notice that if this Rule were passed as it stood, he should strongly object in the future to perpetual Votes on Account. He quite agreed with what had fallen

Mr. Chaplin

from the Prime Minister in reference to the disadvantage of breaking the continuity of debate by making Monday and Thursday Government nights, and had often felt that it was an arrangement which was attended with many inconveniences.

LORD EDMOND FITZMAURICE said, he believed the proposal of the Government to be perfectly equitable to private Members, whose sentiments in this matter the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) did not express. It practically embodied the views of the influential Committee of 1871.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 104; Noes 40: Majority 64.—(Div. List, No. 397.)

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK rose to say that the concession of the Prime Minister was no concession at all, and he desired to move an Amendment, the effect of which, he said, would be to restore the Resolution to the form in which it stood when they adjourned for the holidays. As had been stated, it was the revival of a proposal made in 1871. Lord Sherbrooke told the Members of the Committee that the proposal of the Government was that on Mondays and Thursdays the Speaker should leave the Chair without putting the Question; and Lord Beaconsfield said if the Government limited the proposal to Monday he would agree to it. And in February, 1872, by the very narrow majority of 40, a Resolution was carried, giving the Government Monday only for Supply, and abolishing the privilege of making independent Amendments to the Question of the Speaker leaving the Chair on that day. The Resolution was dropped by the late Government in 1874, and not revived until 1876, when it was introduced in a modified form by omitting the word "first;" and then the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for India, while supporting the proposal, said—

"That the late Government never wished to hinder Motions on going into Committee of Supply."—[3 *Hansard*, cccxvii. 472.]

This Resolution dropped in 1878; and when the Government deemed it necessary to propose it in the more stringent form of the Resolution of 1872, they were met with one of the most violent and obstructive oppositions which mo-

dern times had seen. The debate was carried on during the nights of the 17th, 20th, and 24th of February until a late hour. The opposition was led by the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands), who, in an exhaustive oration, exposed the conspiracy of the wicked Tory Government to suppress free speech. The hon. Member was supported by every section of the Opposition, by the hon. Members for Swansea (Mr. Dillwyn), Birmingham (Mr. Muntz), Glasgow (Mr. Anderson), Kincardineshire (Sir George Balfour), and many others below the Gangway—by the hon. and judicial Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread), who

“Thought the power to bring forward questions on Supply should be retained, it being a privilege the House would not willingly surrender.”—[3 *Hansard*, cclxiii, 1370.]

But the most important feature on that occasion was the action of the Members of the present Government. The noble Marquess the Secretary of State for India urged the retention of the power to make Motions on Supply, but suggested that they might be advantageously transferred to the Report of Supply under a new Rule to be framed for that purpose, which Rule it was, perhaps, needless to say was not amongst the proposals now before the House. The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Home Secretary objected strenuously to any curtailment of the rights of private Members. He said—

“If there was a tendency on the part of the Government to draw the strings tighter, that was all the more reason why Members should not relinquish the privileges they now possessed. . . . And he knew of no circumstances which could induce him to think that the House of Commons would do well to enlarge the powers of the Executive Government at the expense of the authority of Parliament.”—[*Ibid.* 1524-5.]

The President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) and the First Commissioner of Works (Mr. Shaw Lefevre) followed in the same strain; but the most active and busy opponent on that occasion was the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Sir Charles W. Dilke), who, in some 10 divisions, offered wilful and persistent Obstruction, and repeatedly urged that the ancient practice of discussing grievances before granting Supply was one of the most valuable parts of our Parliamentary Constitution. It was only fair, then, to ask

the Members of the Government why they had so materially changed their views since last August, for it was admitted, even by its authors and supporters, that the old Rule had worked well? He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) thought that the real reason was to be found in the Prime Minister's long-standing and persistent enmity to the independence of the House of Commons, which was, in fact, in his idea, another “Upas tree,” which he was determined to cut down at the first opportunity, and he had, therefore, seized the occasion of an Autumn Session and of a weary House to accomplish his purpose; and the frank and candid admission made that evening by the hon. Member for Aylesbury (Mr. G. Russell), that “nine-tenths of the Party opposite regarded the will of the Prime Minister as law,” showed that the Prime Minister had them completely under his control, and could make them vote as he pleased, and against their own convictions. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) could not conclude without calling attention to the misstatements which the Prime Minister had made in his speech of October 24th to the 12th Resolution, as originally drawn. The Prime Minister said that—

“Under the established usages of the House, Friday, which was originally a Government night, has become a Members' night, with very few exceptions. It is desirable that the House should bear in mind that Friday used, in the regular course, when Business was far less urgent than it is now, and when less Business was initiated by Ministers, to belong to the Government. . . . And when the present Regulation was made that Friday should be a night of Committee of Supply, it was contemplated and expected and intended that a large portion of that night should be available for Government Business.”—[3 *Hansard*, cclxiv, 51.]

Now, in reply to that statement, he (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) would observe—first, that Friday was appointed for Committee of Supply in 1860, in exchange for the whole of Thursday given to the Government, and the abolition of the Motion for Adjournment from Friday till Monday, upon which Members had a right to speak; secondly, that, according to the existing practice, a large portion of Friday's time was available to the Government, as proved by the fact that on 10 Fridays at least during the current Session Votes in Supply had been taken. If the Resolution were carried in its present form,

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the "gag" would be complete—Monday and Thursday would belong to the Government, and on Tuesday and Friday independent Members would be counted out, because the Prime Minister, failing to follow the practice of Lord Beaconsfield, took no pains to make a House at 9 o'clock, and it was only the Government, with the aid of their paid janissaries, as all experienced Members knew, who could accomplish that result with any degree of certainty. He (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck) appealed to the independent Members of the Party opposite, and especially to the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands), not to be influenced by the Prime Minister and by the dictation of the "Caucus" at his back, but to adhere to the opinions they had so frequently expressed when in Opposition, and support the Amendment which he had the honour to move.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, to leave out from the word "Supply," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "appointed for the consideration of the ordinary Army, Navy, and Civil Service Estimates stands as the first Order of the Day on a Monday, Mr. Speaker shall leave the Chair without putting any Question, unless an Amendment be moved, or Question raised relating to the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply, on first going into Committee on the Army, Navy, and Civil Services respectively,"—(Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words 'stands as the first Order of the Day on' stand part of the Question."

After a pause,

MR. GORST said, he really thought that it was a monstrous thing that a Resolution which was opposed by right hon. and hon. Gentlemen now sitting on the Treasury Bench for three consecutive days should now be sought to be disposed of in less than three hours. He hoped that Gentlemen who had so much distinguished themselves by their opposition when the Resolution was proposed by the late Government, would condescend to give the House a few hints, at any rate, why they had so materially altered their opinion, and why the House should be called upon to adopt it now. He saw on the Treasury Bench at that moment more than one right hon. and hon. Member who took a prominent part in the opposition at the

time referred to; and although he (Mr. Gorst) sat upon the Government side of the House at the time, he did not imitate the conduct of the hon. Member for Swansea (Mr. Dillwyn) and the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands), who ran away from the principles they professed in Opposition when they found themselves on the Government side of the House; but he had assisted the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Birmingham (Mr. Chamberlain), the President of the Board of Trade, and the right hon. Baronet the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Sir Charles W. Dilke), and the hon. Gentleman the Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Courtney), in the opposition they then offered to the Resolution. He had done so because he was foolish enough to believe that those right hon. and hon. Members were in earnest, and that they were sincere and zealous to maintain the rights of private Members and the privileges of the House. Of course, if he had then had the experience he had gained since, he would have known what the opinions held by those hon. Members were worth, and that what they did when in Opposition was no guide whatever as to the action they would take when in Office. Certainly, if he had known as much as he did now, he should not have been so foolish as to have joined their ranks. The right hon. Gentleman the Member for Whitehaven (Mr. Cavendish Bentinck), who had brought this matter before the House, had referred to the speeches made by Members of the present Government in opposition to the Resolution when it was proposed by a Conservative Government, and in particular he had quoted the arguments of the right hon. Member for Birmingham (Mr. Chamberlain). But Her Majesty's Government did not now think it worth while to answer any of the arguments they had themselves adduced against the proposal in the last Parliament. Surely it was worth while that they should make some apology for their change of opinion. It was almost a scandal that the matter should be allowed to be passed by *sub silentio*, and that not a single reason should be given for the change which had come over the spirit of their dream. He had no wish to repeat the arguments they had used; he had no desire to remind them too much in detail of the position they were

Mr. Cavendish Bentinck

now occupying; but the question was really this—Whether they were to take away now from the non-official Members of the House the opportunities which they at present enjoyed of criticizing the acts of the Executive Government? He would warn the Government of one thing—namely, that they could not stop the criticism of the Executive Government. If they succeeded in stopping it in one direction, they might depend upon it that it would break out in another. When the Session of Parliament commenced, there were always a certain number of grievances to be brought forward—a certain number of wrongs and complaints to be made against the Executive Government; and they would find vent and be talked out on the floor of the House in some form or shape. Her Majesty's Government might prevent them being discussed on a Monday or a Thursday; but those who had the grievances to bring forward would find some other day, and if they were to be deprived of the opportunity on going into Committee of Supply, they would find some other by means of Motions for the adjournment of the House or for reporting Progress. In some shape or other an opportunity would be seized for ventilating grievances, no matter what attempt the Government made to circumscribe the occasions when such opportunities would be available. The short experience which he had had of the House taught him that if they wished to be economical in regard to the time at their disposal they would let people talk out their grievances with the Speaker in the Chair and then go into Committee of Supply. They would assuredly make more progress with the Business of the country by adopting such a course. The Motions which were generally discussed on going into Committee of Supply were Motions which involved more or less of principle; whereas in Supply it was not the custom to discuss questions of principle, but simply to consider details in reference to the money proposed to be expended. If they were going to have their Committee of Supply continually interrupted by the cropping up of Motions and questions involving matters of principle, they might depend upon it that their time would not be economically expended. He did not see why the Government should not accept a Rule which had

already been tried, and which had been found to work very well, and for his own part he was satisfied that they would be able to get on with Supply without taking away from private Members the privileges which they now enjoyed. He did not believe that Her Majesty's Government were honest in proposing this Rule. He did not believe that they intended it for the purpose of enabling them to make real progress with Supply, but they wanted the Rule to enable them to put off Supply until a late period of the Session, so that when they did go into Committee of Supply they could take the whole time of the House, and, to use a vulgar expression, "rattle through" Supply without being delayed by any Motions on the Question of the Speaker leaving the Chair. In point of fact, the wish of the Government was not to have Supply discussed at all, and the best way of accomplishing that object was not to give the House time for discussing it. In the last Amendment the House had a specimen of the sincerity with which the Government were acting. They would not even pledge themselves to put down Supply on a Monday. They would not pledge themselves to put it down at all in the early days of the Session; but what they really did want was to get possession of the whole of the time of private Members—to take the whole time of the House themselves, and not to afford any opportunity for the discussion of grievances. He trusted the House would oppose every attempt of the kind.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, that since he had had the honour of a seat in the House, nothing had impressed him so much as the very unsatisfactory way in which the money of the people was voted away owing to the uncertainty of the time at which Supply would be brought on, and the lateness and unreasonableness of the hours at which the Votes were brought on. A reform in this respect was, in his opinion, most necessary. He thought it was essential that Supply should be brought on at a time and under circumstances which would enable hon. Members to give decent attention to the subject. Supply ought to be voted at a reasonable hour, and it was most improper that millions of money should be voted away in the small hours of the morning. For these reasons he most heartily supported the propositions of the Government. On the other hand,

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he was not without some apprehension that when the Government had the means of taking Supply on Monday and Thursday, the privilege hitherto possessed by private Members of bringing forward grievances would be much abridged. He should have been glad if the Government could have seen their way to adopt some of the suggestions that were at one time thrown out by the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for India (the Marquess of Hartington), and that some compensation would be made to private Members in the event of their privileges being abridged or taken away. After the views which had been expressed, he entertained the hope that the Prime Minister would be able to do something in order to protect the interests of private Members.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 99; Noes 27: Majority 72.—(Div. List, No. 398.)

MR. GLADSTONE said, he rose now, in fulfilment of the pledge he had given, to move that after the word "on," in line 2, all the words of the Resolution should be struck out down to the words "have precedence," inclusive, in line 3, for the purpose of inserting the words "Monday and Thursday." The object of the Amendment was to meet the criticisms and complaints of hon. Gentlemen opposite and to expedite the Business of Supply. There seemed to be an impression that the Government was bound to introduce Supply at an earlier period of the Session than had been the case of late, and that not more than one Vote on Account should ever be taken. It was impossible to enter into a proposal of that nature at any length at the present moment, and it would be very difficult to carry out the wishes of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross) without altering the practice in regard to the calling of Parliament together. For example, if they should prorogue, as he supposed they would, in the month of December, and it was the wish of the right hon. Gentleman that they should meet in the middle of January, the Government would be glad to consider that wish; and if effect were given to it, then they might be able to make some progress with Supply before Easter, which next year he believed came earlier than usual. He could not agree with the

right hon. Gentleman that under no circumstances should the Government ever ask Parliament for more than one Vote on Account. He did not think that would be possible even with the increased facilities which they proposed to provide by giving the Government the command of Monday and Thursday for purposes of Supply. Undoubtedly the having command of those days would very much alter the position of the Government, and, under ordinary circumstances, he thought Votes on Account ought to become either unknown or known only under very extraordinary circumstances.

Amendment proposed,

In line 2, to leave out the words "any day except Friday evening, on which Government Orders have precedence," and insert the words "Monday and Thursday,"—(Mr. Gladstone,)—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Resolution."

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS suggested that the Amendment should be "Monday or Thursday."

MR. GLADSTONE said, he accepted the alteration.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he was glad that anything which had fallen from him should have drawn from the Prime Minister the remarks which had fallen from him in reference to Votes on Account. He hoped that in future any such Votes, except a first one, would be unknown and never asked for except upon a very extraordinary occasion. So far as the meeting of Parliament was concerned, he hoped the Prime Minister would feel that the labours of the House had been excessive this autumn. As, however, the question had been raised, and the right hon. Gentleman talked about proroguing in December, he (Sir R. Assheton Cross) was still in hopes that the Notice he had given for putting off the consideration of the Resolutions relating to Standing Committees this Session would receive the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government when the House met on Monday next. At any rate, he trusted that the Government might not deem it necessary to call Parliament together again until a considerable time after the usual period in February.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Sir George Campbell

Question, "That the words 'Monday or Thursday' be there inserted," put, and agreed to.

MR. GORST moved to amend the Resolution by inserting, after the word "Thursday," the words—

"And a printed statement by the Minister in charge of the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply shall have been at least one week previously circulated amongst the Members of the House."

He had already stated what his views were upon this matter, and he would not detain the House by recapitulating them.

Amendment proposed,

In line 3, at the end of the foregoing Amendment, to insert the words "and a printed statement by the Minister in charge of the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply shall have been at least one week previously circulated amongst the Members of the House."—(Mr. Gorst.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR said, he hoped that the Prime Minister would accept this Amendment. It was of the highest importance that there should be some printed statement of the kind proposed, and many hon. Members with whom he had conversed upon the subject were in favour of the proposal. Hon. Members would be spared immense labour if they could have all the details before them on a printed paper. He was also able to say, from his own knowledge and experience, that such a statement could easily be prepared by the Naval and Military Departments concerned; and he could not help thinking that such statements would go far towards enlightening the House, when they came to discuss the Votes, upon many questions on which they were left in the dark. He thought, also, that the Budget might be printed; and, in regard to the Civil Service Estimates, he strongly recommended that an attempt should be made to explain in detail many of the items which appeared in them. Experience proved that the Miscellaneous Estimates were, of all the Votes, the worst prepared, the least known, and the most difficult to understand. He would strongly urge that the heads of the Departments representing the Civil Service branch should be required to prepare an explanatory statement, so that the House might become acquainted

with the nature of the various items. The House would recollect that when the Votes for the Civil Service came to be taken in Committee of Supply last year, there was a remarkable failure on the part of the heads of Departments to lay information before the House. It was, therefore, of the utmost importance that the Estimates should be accompanied by a printed statement explaining them, and materially lightening the labours of the Committee. For these reasons he should strongly support the proposal of the hon. and learned Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst).

MR. RYLANDS said, he hoped the Prime Minister would receive with favour the proposal of the hon. and learned Member for Chatham, which would tend to the proper discussion of the Estimates, and, by giving hon. Members time for consideration, would enable them better to appreciate the statement made by the Minister in charge.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he was, in one sense, no great authority on this subject, because, although he had performed most of the duties devolving on a Member of Parliament throughout a lengthened experience, he had never proposed the Army or Navy Estimates, nor the Indian Budget. He had, however, proposed the Budget of this country a great number of times. Before arriving at a positive conclusion on the proposal of the hon. and learned Member, he should like to have it carefully considered by those who had experience in moving the Indian Budget and the Estimates he had referred to; but, speaking from his own experience as Chancellor of the Exchequer, he thought there was a great deal to be said in favour of the proposition, and that it deserved, at least, impartial and unbiassed consideration. Further than that, however, he could not go, and he hoped the hon. and learned Gentleman would not press his Amendment. It was quite clear that this was no matter of Procedure, and, therefore, ought not to form any part of the present Resolution.

MR. GORST said, he was quite sensible to the objection taken by the Prime Minister with regard to the proposed arrangement being out of place in the Procedure Resolutions. He had never intended to press this Amendment to a division; and, having called attention to

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the matter, which he hoped would receive further consideration hereafter, begged leave to withdraw his Amendment.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL remarked that last year the Secretary of State for India had taken the course suggested by the Amendment, which met the convenience of Members, and, at the same time, very much simplified his own labours.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. GORST said, he had an Amendment relating to the withdrawal of Supplementary and Excess Estimates from the operation of the Rule. This Amendment, also, he had no intention of pressing to a division, but simply drew attention to the question, in order to afford the Prime Minister an opportunity of saying whether he would give it his consideration.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he entirely agreed that Supplementary and Excess Estimates should be discouraged wherever they were the result of want of care in framing the original Estimates. But, under the present arrangements, large numbers of Supplementary Estimates were necessarily brought forward in order to satisfy the theory of a perfect account which was required by our Constitutional system. It would, therefore, be a source of the highest public inconvenience were the hands of the Government tied in the manner proposed by the hon. and learned Member.

MR. GORST said, under the circumstances, he would not move, but would call attention to the subject of his next Amendment. The Resolution as it stood obliged every Member who had a Motion on going into Committee of Supply to bring it forward on the first night of Supply. Now, that was the night of all others when it was essential that the House should get into Committee at an early hour; Members were then desirous of hearing the statement of the Minister in charge of the Estimates, and an appeal was generally made to Gentlemen having Motions on the Paper not to bring them forward, but to allow the Ministerial statement to be made. But if the Resolution were passed in its present form, no one could in future give way with regard to his Motion on the first night, because that would be the only occasion on which he would be able to bring it forward. An hon. Member,

for instance, wishing to bring forward a Motion on the state of the Navy would not do so under ordinary circumstances on the first night of Supply, in order that the First Lord might make his statement; but if that were the only occasion open to him he would be compelled to intervene because he would have no other opportunity of making his Motion. For his own part he would prefer to see any other than the first night of Supply assigned to the Motions of private Members, and therefore begged to move its omission from the Resolution.

Amendment proposed, in line 4, to leave out the word "first."—(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'first' stand part of the Question."

MR. DODSON said, he hoped the hon. and learned Member for Chatham would be satisfied with having raised the question involved in his Amendment without putting the House to the trouble of a division. The effect of not limiting Motions to the first night on going into Supply would be to open a door to dilatory Motions which it would be difficult to close. The House had already experience of Resolutions of this kind, one of which, the first introduced, was in force in the Sessions of 1872 and 1873; the limitation of Motions then was to the first occasion of going into Committee of Supply on the Army, Navy, and Civil Service Estimates, the result being that the days on which the House was enabled to get early into Committee were much more frequent than they had been in previous years. In 1876 and in 1877 a similar Rule was in force, from which, however the word "first" was omitted, and which produced hardly any perceptible result. In 1879 and in 1880 a Resolution of the kind was again adopted by the House, the word "first" being re-introduced. This, again, had a marked effect of allowing the House to get into Committee of Supply without resistance or impediment. It would be seen, therefore, that they had had full experience of the effect of the present wording of the Resolution; and he thought Her Majesty's Government could hardly be expected to adopt the alteration now proposed by the hon. and learned Member for Chatham.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he agreed with almost all that had been

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stated by the right hon. Gentleman who had just spoken. But he must point out that, while his arguments were perfect, his premisses were wrong. The right hon. Gentleman had not touched one part of the proposition of his hon. and learned Friend, who contended that if they gave to private Members the first night on going into Committee of Supply, that was to say, the night on which the Minister in charge would make his statement, Members wishing to hear the Secretary of State for War or the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the Ministers themselves, would be kept waiting from 4 o'clock in the afternoon until all the Motions on the Paper were disposed of, no one being able to say when that would be. That he understood to be the difficulty alluded to by his hon. and learned Friend, who said — "If you are to have one night only for Motions, it is better to take the second than the first occasion of going into Committee of Supply, so that the Secretary of State for War or the First Lord of the Admiralty may come down and make his statement at 5 o'clock on the first night, and on the second occasion private Members would have the right of bringing forward their Motions." He thought there were strong reasons in support of that proposal.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Mr. GORST said, the next Amendment also stood in his name and in the name of the right hon. Member for Hampshire (Mr. Selater-Booth), and provided that the rights of Members should be recognized in regard to the Civil Service Estimates. The Civil Service Estimates, as everyone knew, comprehended a number of classes perfectly distinct from one another, and there seemed to be no logical reason for not allowing Motions to be made upon the different classes of Civil Service Estimates in the same way as in regard to the Army and Navy Estimates. The Civil Service Estimates were quite as distinct from one another as the Army and Navy Estimates were, and as the latter were from the Civil Service Estimates. He did not see why each class of the Civil Service Estimates should not be treated separately. This was a matter which had been often ventilated in the House before, and often supported by hon. Members opposite; and he did

not see why the proposal was not worthy of consideration.

Amendment proposed, in line 4, after the word "or," to insert "on the several Classes of the."—(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and *negatived*.

Mr. GORST said, he should not move the next Amendment; but he wished to ask the Government whether they would consent to a Rule for reporting Progress at 12 o'clock at night? ["Oh, oh!"] Hon. Members might cry "Oh, oh!" but the Business of the country ought to be properly performed. He wondered what hon. Gentlemen would think if their managers and clerks transacted their business every night after 12 o'clock. Now, there was a new state of things under which the House was going to get into Supply at half-past 4 or 5. The House would sit in Committee of Supply until 12—seven hours of continuous exertion—and if the House went on after 12 o'clock passing Votes in Committee of Supply, people outside the House would not consider that their affairs were properly attended to; and they would be right, because it was impossible for any man, however great his power of attention and his ability to attend to matters of this kind, to do justice to the subject after seven hours close attention. He remembered a statement made by the late Mr. Hermon in reference to shortening the hours of labour in factories. That Gentleman said his experience of business was that all the bad work was done in the last hour, and that it was really an economical plan to shorten the hours in the factories, because they would get rid of all the bad work in the last hour. It was just the same in the House of Commons. If they lengthened their hours beyond 12 o'clock there would be bad workmanship. They had an instance of that now; they were finishing up this business at a late hour. He was endeavouring to do his best; but he was conscious that he could not do justice to the subject or adduce proper arguments, because the House had been going on so long with the matter and hon. Members were not able to give proper attention to the subject. He earnestly entreated the House not to lengthen the hours for work, believing that if the House was to go into Committee of Supply earlier in the evening,

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12 o'clock would be a sufficiently late hour at which to report Progress. He begged to move an Amendment to this effect.

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words "but that at the hour of Twelve of the Clock the Chairman shall report Progress without putting any Question."—(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

MR. GLADSTONE: I notice that the speech of the hon. and learned Member has been made after 12 o'clock, but that the Amendment was framed before 12 o'clock, and I am bound to say that I think the speech is a great deal better after 12 o'clock than it would have been before 12 o'clock. The argument of the hon. Gentleman applies very much to one side and to the other, and I am not disinclined to the general opinion that as soon after 12 o'clock as may be without inconvenience, Progress shall be reported. It is, however, quite another matter to propose that we should have a Standing Order by which the Chairman is to report Progress without Question put. From that point of view it is a matter of serious importance. In the first place, we all know what a great inconvenience these fixed hours sometimes are. We cannot entirely get rid of them; but nothing has been so fruitful in the introduction of abuse by indirect methods of Obstruction, which all our Rules can only partially check, as these fixed hours, and it is now proposed to have three days in the week for Supply subject to that most dangerous arrangement. But, over and above that, it must be borne in mind that very often it is a matter of legal necessity, as well as of public expediency, that Votes shall be taken on a particular day in order to meet the actual wants of the Public Service; but, according to the present proposal, all such Votes will have to be thrown out of consideration, and an absolute unbending Rule will compel the House to stop Supply at 12 o'clock. The proper way of controlling very late hours in Supply is by moving that the Chairman do report Progress. That power will still remain in the hands of hon. Members, and I hope that on occasion they will not scruple to use it.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT said, he was glad to hear the remarks of the

Prime Minister, because, in future, the House would remember that 12 o'clock was the proper time for reporting Progress. The right hon. Gentleman knew that up to 1874 and 1875 Supply was never allowed to proceed much after 12 o'clock. Many hon. Members present did not know that it was an established custom formerly that Supply should never go on till 1 o'clock, but that it was always stopped between 12 and 1. If the House began Supply at 5 o'clock, they could not discuss it with any profit to themselves or the country later than 12 o'clock.

Question put, and *negatived*.

Main Question, as amended, again proposed.

MR. GORST said, he had given Notice of a Motion to reject this Resolution altogether; but he did not intend to go to a division, not because he had altered his mind as to the mischievous character of the Resolution, but because of the present state of the House. He should like, however, in withdrawing his opposition—under protest—to make an acknowledgment which he felt was due to the Prime Minister for the manner in which he had met the criticisms offered upon this Resolution. He did not suppose the Prime Minister would consider him guilty of any flattery, or as acting in any way except as a strict opponent of the Government, when he said he felt very strongly the candid and patient manner in which the right hon. Gentleman had met all the various Amendments which had been proposed to this Resolution. The Prime Minister had such a majority at his back that he might have enshrouded himself in silence and carried his Resolutions as he had framed them; but, instead of that, the right hon. Gentleman had thought proper to meet, in the fairest manner, all the arguments introduced, or, at all events, to listen to them, and he felt grateful for the way in which the right hon. Gentleman had acted.

MR. R. N. FOWLER said, he was sorry his hon. and learned Friend had decided not to divide the House, because, having no opportunity of voting, he could not record his strong feeling of opposition to this Resolution, which he regarded as the death-knell of the rights of private Members. He believed that, under this Resolution, it would be

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utterly impossible for private Members to bring forward important questions; and it seemed to him that the House was taking away from Members all chance of discussing questions which might be considered with great advantage to the country and to the Empire at large. He wished he had an opportunity of recording his vote against the Resolution, and he regretted the course taken by his hon. and learned Friend.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

(12.) *Resolved*, That whenever the Committee of Supply stands as the first Order of the Day on Monday or Thursday, Mr. Speaker shall leave the Chair without putting any Question, unless on first going into Supply on the Army, Navy, or Civil Service Estimates respectively, or on any Vote of Credit, an Amendment be moved, or Question raised, relating to the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply.

Further Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure *deferred till Monday next*.

House adjourned at One o'clock
till Monday next.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Monday, 27th November, 1882.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of Judicial Business only.

House adjourned at Four o'clock,
till To-morrow, half past
Ten o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Monday, 27th November, 1882.

MINUTES.]—NEW MEMBER SWORN—William Edward Murray Tomlinson, esquire, for the Borough of Preston,

QUESTIONS.

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SCOTLAND—TRIAL OF FISHERMEN AT LOCHGILPHEAD.

DR. CAMERON asked the Lord Advocate, Whether his attention has been called to the case of three fishermen named M'Gregor, Johnson, and Duff, who were tried at a J.P. Court at Lochgilphead on the 17th instant for a breach of the peace committed on July 15th, which the Court considered to be adequately punished by fines amounting in all to 7*s.* 6*d.*; and, whether bail amounting to £20, on which they had been liberated, was held by the authorities during four months; and, if so, whether, since this long postponement of their trial was calculated to prevent the men pursuing their occupation as fishermen by rendering long absences impossible, without risk of forfeiture of their bail, he will take steps to have petty cases more speedily disposed of in the Lochgilphead district?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (Mr. J. B. BALFOUR): The persons named in the Question were apprehended on 13th July on a charge of attempting to rescue prisoners and assaulting the police. In the scuffle a stone, weighing upwards of 10 lbs., was thrown at the police. The accused were released on bail—in one case of £10, in the other of £5. Some delay was caused by the difficulty in obtaining evidence, and ultimately the accused were tried on the less serious charge of breach of the peace. The delay in bringing the accused to trial was too long, and I shall communicate with the authorities with a view to securing a more speedy disposal of such cases in future.

UNION OF BENEFICES ACT— ST. OLAVE, JEWRY.

COLONEL ALEXANDER asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether, in the event of the demolition of the Church of St. Olave, Jewry, he will take steps to protect the remains interred in the church and adjoining churchyard?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I find, Sir, on reference to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, that, though it was in contemplation to demolish the Church of St. Olave, Jewry, the matter has not yet assumed a definite form. In any case,

measures will be taken to protect the remains of those interred in the church and adjoining churchyard.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION COURT
—COSTS OF APPEALS.

MR. GIBSON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Chief Land Commissioners, in giving judgment in the first appeal heard at Clonmel, on November 6th 1882, laid it down that for the future the rule of the Court as to the costs of appeals from the Sub-Commissioners would be that the costs would follow the result, *i.e.*, that the successful party would be entitled to be paid his costs by the opposite party; but this rule would be subject to the following exception, that the landlord would not be entitled to costs against the tenant unless he succeeded in restoring the old rent which was payable before the Sub-Commissioners sat; whether the Commissioners tried forty-six cases in the county Tipperary, and adopted the rule all through; and, whether, in only two cases out of the forty-six did they restore the old rent, and give the landlord costs; although, in several other cases, their own valuer agreed with the landlord's valuer in valuing the lands considerably above the old rent?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Land Commissioners, when sitting in Clonmel in the early part of this month, expressed their intention, when dealing with appeals, to adopt the following practice with regard to costs, reserving to themselves entire liberty where they deemed it right to vary the practice in its application to particular cases. First, when the Court confirms the judicial rent, the appellant, whether landlord or tenant, pays costs to the opposite party. Secondly, when the landlord appeals, and the Court restores the old rent, the landlord gets his costs against the tenant. To entitle the landlord who appeals to his costs it is not essential that the old rent should be entirely restored. Thirdly, when the judicial rent is varied on appeal, each party, as a general rule, bears his own costs; but the Court, in a proper case, would not hesitate to give costs against either landlord or tenant when on special grounds it seemed just to do so. The Land Commissioners tried 46 cases at Clonmel, and followed the above practice in them all. In three cases out of

the 46 they restored the old rent and gave the landlord his costs. In several other cases both the Court valuer and the landlord's valuer placed a value on the lands above the old rent.

CRIME (IRELAND) — MURDER OF
POLICE - CONSTABLE COX IN DUBLIN.

MR. GIBSON asked the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Whether he will give the House any information he can with regard to the terrible assassination which occurred in Dublin on Saturday evening?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have heard many and interesting particulars of what passed in Dublin on Saturday night, and I know very well what are the views and intentions of the Irish Government; but I do not feel justified in communicating to the House anything beyond what has transpired through the newspapers. I must ask hon. Members to consider that it is important to keep in their minds the distinction between the general state of Ireland and the special question of violent organized crime in Dublin. The agrarian outrages in the current month will almost certainly fall below 100 for the first time since 28 months; but the Irish Government have never concealed from themselves that murderous crime in Dublin was a question apart from the general state of law and order in Ireland—I do not say altogether, but in some respects apart. With that crime, from causes to which I cannot refer more nearly, but chiefly owing to what, I cannot but think, are the excellent arrangements of the Irish Police Department, as at present conducted, we have now reached a stage of open and determined conflict. High and low, the servants of Her Majesty are resolved to do their duty in the matter; and I trust that the country will recognize the heroic courage of the brave men who have had an opportunity of showing of what stuff the Dublin police are made, and the courage of that gallant Sergeant Danvers, of the Rifles, who stood by them under circumstances I venture to think—though I have never been under fire—more trying than those of ordinary battle. The inquest on Constable Cox began at 2 o'clock to-day, and I do not yet know the issue of it. It is a melancholy satisfaction to be able to inform the House that he was an unmarred man. He has an uncle, an inspec-

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tor in the force, who is an excellent officer, I am told, who will have reason to be proud of the manner in which his nephew died in the performance of his duty.

MR. J. LOWTHER: I do not wish to follow the right hon. Gentleman through his somewhat argumentative answer as to the degree of connection between crime in Dublin and in the Provinces. I wish to ask whether it is the case that a murderous assault was made in the course of to-day upon a water bailiff?

MR. TREVELYAN: I do not know why the right hon. Gentleman speaks of my answer as argumentative. I said, and I suppose that every Member will agree with me, that there are certain characteristics which are not common between crime in the country and in Dublin. What I said I said for public reasons, and it was to inform the House that for some time past the Irish authorities have been extremely anxious about matters in that city; and, although this open manifestation has shocked them, as it must shock everybody else, it has not surprised them, and they still feel that good may come out of the terrible evil. It would be improper to say that there was no connection at all between them and the general crime of the country, for, as far as we know, there is some connection.

MR. J. LOWTHER: The right hon. Gentleman has not answered my Question as to the water bailiff.

MR. TREVELYAN: We have no news whatever about it.

POOR LAW (ENGLAND) — MELTON MOWBRAY WORKHOUSE.

MR. LABOUCHERE asked the President of the Local Government Board, On what grounds he declined to confirm the appointment of a husband and wife as Master and Matron of the workhouse at Melton Mowbray? The hon. Member added that a resolution had been passed by the Melton Mowbray Board of Guardians to this effect—

“Resolved, that in reference to their letter, the Local Government Board be respectfully informed that Mr. and Mrs. Wild were appointed out of a list of 50 candidates to the offices of master and matron of the union workhouse by a considerable majority in a full Board; that the fact of Mr. Wild having married his deceased wife's sister was thoroughly known to all the guardians present, who did not, and who

do not now, consider that such a circumstance should operate as a disqualification for the offices named; and that this Board therefore ventures to urge the Local Government Board to reconsider their decision and to allow the appointments in question to be confirmed.”

MR. DODSON: Sir, the resolution to which my hon. Friend refers has not been brought before me; but, in answer to the Question, I can only say that in the present state of English law there is no valid marriage between these two persons; and, under these circumstances, the Local Government Board thought they would not be justified in confirming this appointment.

MR. LABOUCHERE asked if he was to understand—for this was very important—that the Local Government Board intended to veto the appointment on the part of the local officials of any person who had married his deceased wife's sister in the Colonies or in any other country where such a marriage was legal?

MR. DODSON: I do not feel called upon to commit myself to an answer to the general question of my hon. Friend. I have answered his Question with regard to a case which was brought before the Local Government Board, and which was decided by them.

STATE OF IRELAND—SHELTER HUTS —INTERFERENCE OF THE POLICE.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Mr. Jeremiah Leahy, of Corbally, Farrenfare, county Kerry, a tenant farmer, having given leave for the erection on his holding of a hut to shelter the family of an evicted tenant of Lord Kenmare, Pat Murphy, of Rath, whose house had been burnt by order of the landlord after he had been six times evicted, and the hut having been erected on Mr. Leahy's holding, an officer of police called upon Mr. Leahy, in company with the under agent of Lord Kenmare, stated that a police hut would be erected on the holding, and when Mr. Leahy intimated his intention of seeking legal redress for any act of trespass, informed him that the hut would be put up at the point of the bayonet; and whether it has been put up, and is now standing on Mr. Leahy's farm; what right the police had to threaten Mr. Leahy, and to put up the hut on his holding against his will, and whether it will be continued

there; whether the district is quite peaceful, and has been so for a considerable time; and, whether, the facts being so, the extra police force will be further maintained, or the cost of it be charged on the occupiers of the district?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, a hut has been erected on Mr. Jeremiah Leahy's holding, for the shelter of the man Patrick Murphy, referred to in the Question; and a hut for the accommodation of an extra police force has also been erected on land which, though part of Leahy's farm, is in Lord Kenmare's possession, Leahy having the grazing right on it. As regards Murphy's evictions, the circumstances were as follows:—He was first evicted by his son-in-law, both were then evicted by Lord Kenmare. Murphy was re-admitted as caretaker for a period of nine months, after which he was again put out. He then took forcible possession of the house, which it was found necessary to destroy, after he had been put out once again by force. The district is not in a satisfactory state, and the cost of the extra police must be levied off it.

IRELAND — RECENT INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES—MR. GEORGE SMITH.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he has given attention to a public speech made by Mr. George Smith, barrister at law, at a soirée of Orange Lodges held in Dungannon on the 5th instant, and reported in the "Tyrone Constitution" of the 10th instant, in which speech the following expressions occurred:—

"No one could track the progress of Mr. Gladstone as a statesman without seeing that his measures have undermined most of the fundamental principles of the Constitution itself. He introduced the Arrears Act, and proclaimed thereby his wish to reward the dishonest and the disloyal. . . . It was somewhat satisfactory to find that Members who at the last election were quite in love with Gladstone and his administration had recently met to condemn the people's William for his change of front in reference to crime and land legislation."

and, whether, as Mr. George Smith, barrister, holds the official position of district registrar (at Armagh) of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice in Ireland, any notice, and, if so, what, will be taken of his public ex-

Mr. Sexton

pressions affecting the head of the Government?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Question of the hon. Member having directed my attention to the speech of Mr. Smith, as reported in a local paper, I have read the report, and have to say that the Government do not intend to take any notice of the matter, feeling that the language, supposing it to have been used by Mr. Smith, though not such as is commonly used by a permanent servant of the Crown, does not amount to such official misconduct as would warrant his removal from his office.

NAVY—THE NAVAL RESERVES.

MR. GOURLEY asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, If it is intended to lay upon the Table of the House a Report of the condition of the Naval Reserves whilst under the command of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh; if so, when he anticipates being able to place the same in the hands of Members.

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: Yes, Sir; it is our intention to do so on an early day.

AFRICA (EAST COAST)—THE BAY OF TAJOURA—ASSAB BAY.

BARON HENRY DE WORMS asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether it is the fact that the Bay of Tadjoura, at the head of the Gulf of Aden, on the East Coast of Africa, has been ceded to France by the Sultan of Laita; if so, whether this cession, which places France in a position from which she might threaten the road to our Indian possessions, was recommended by Her Majesty's Government, as in the case of the cession to Italy of the Bay of Assab; and, whether Her Majesty's Government have made, or intend to make, any communication to the French Government on the subject?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Sir, Her Majesty's Government are not aware of any such cession having been made to France by the Khedive of Egypt, to whom the territory in question belongs under the Sovereignty of the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire. As the hon. Member thinks fit to repeat a statement which he has already made, and I have already contradicted in this House, I may state that the cession to Italy of the Bay of Assab was not recommended by Her

Majesty's present Government, and that the Italian flag was already flying there when the late Government went out of Office.

BARON HENRY DE WORMS asked, Whether the despatch of Lord Dufferin to Earl Granville (Blue Book, No. 131) of December 7 was correct, in which the writer said he was pressing for a speedy settlement of the Assab Bay Convention, and that Said Pasha had promised that no time should be lost in the matter?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: On the 20th of April last I fully explained the circumstances to the House. The essential portions of that explanation were that the Convention we produced was intended to define and limit the rights which were supposed to have been acquired by Italy over Assab Bay, that we were dealing with accomplished facts brought about before we came into Office, and that our intention was to limit the rights which Italy had acquired *de facto* under the Convention, but that, as a matter of fact, the Convention was never concluded.

MR. BOURKE: May I ask, with regard to Tajoura Bay, whether it is competent, under Treaties already existing, that any cession of Tajoura can take place without the consent of the British Government?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I have stated in my answer, and I confine myself to this phrase, that Tajoura is, in our opinion, a portion of the dominion administered by the Khedive under the Ottoman Power. We take it that there is not the slightest doubt about Tajoura belonging to the Khedive.

MR. BOURKE: I shall ask the hon. Baronet to-morrow more pointedly about this matter, as I do not think that he quite understands my Question.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I do not want to raise any question of local Treaties. We have no doubt whatever as to Tajoura being a portion of the territory of the Khedive under the dominion of the Ottoman Power.

BARON HENRY DE WORMS: The hon. Baronet says, as I understand him, that there was no Convention between the British and the Italian Government as to Assab Bay.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I said that it had never been brought to a conclusion, nor signed at all.

BARON HENRY DE WORMS: Then I wish to ask the hon. Baronet whether this reply is correct—

“The British Government share the opinion of the Italian Government as to the desirability of promoting the Convention in the hope that it would be accepted by the Sublime Porte and the Egyptian Government?”

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: That is so, Sir. I merely stated as a fact that the Convention did not exist, and the phrase of which I complained was that we had recommended the cession of Assab Bay.

EGYPT (MILITARY EXPEDITION)—PAY OF INDIAN TROOPS.

SIR WILLIAM HART DYKE asked the Secretary of State for India, Whether it is a fact that the Indian Troops lately serving in Egypt have drawn English pay and allowances only; and, if so, whether they have not suffered a diminution in their usual pay during the Campaign?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Sir, the Indian troops, properly so-called, have, during the whole of their absence from India, drawn full Indian pay and allowances. With regard to the British troops on the Indian Establishment proceeding to Egypt, it was decided, after communication with the Secretary of State for War, that the British regiments and batteries were to remain on Indian pay and allowances until they landed in Egypt, when they would come under the orders of the General Commanding-in-Chief in Egypt, and would thenceforward come on the same scale of pay and allowances as the rest of the British troops with the expeditionary force. The rank and file of the regiments suffered no diminution of their usual pay during the campaign, but the officers and regimental staff ceased to draw the pay and allowances at the higher rates which are granted during service in India.

THE MERCANTILE MARINE—INCREASE OF SCURVY.

MR. DILLWYN asked the President of the Board of Trade, Whether he is prepared to take any action in respect to the Report of Mr. Thomas Gray on the increase of scurvy in the Mercantile Marine?

MR. JOHN HOLMS: On behalf of my right hon. Friend, I have to say that the report in question has been forwarded to the various local marine boards accompanied by a circular asking for their observations. Some of the replies have not yet been received, and, although the matter is under consideration, it is impossible at present to say what action the Board of Trade may decide to take.

TURKEY (FINANCE, &c.)—THE TREATY OF BERLIN—THE PUBLIC DEBT OF TURKEY.

MR. BOURKE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, What progress has been made towards giving effect to the Treaty of Berlin with respect to the annual tribute of Bulgaria and the portion of the public debt of Turkey which was to be assigned to Bulgaria, Montenegro, and Servia; and, what portion of the public debt is to be assigned to Greece?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: On the 20th of August of last year the Turkish Ambassador formally communicated the adherence of the Porte to the final acts of the European Boundary Commission; and Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople was thereupon authorized to consider with the Representatives of the other Signatories of the Treaty of Berlin the amount of the annual tribute to be paid, and the proportion of the Ottoman Debt to be borne by Bulgaria. The discussion which followed led to no practical result, and the subsequent negotiations respecting the Russian War Indemnity interfered with the question being further considered; but Mr. Wyndham has been instructed to press the matter on the attention of his Colleagues. With regard to Montenegro, Turkey has not yet completely carried out the decisions of the European Boundary Commission and the subsequent arrangements regarding the Frontier, and the same remark holds good with respect to the Greek Frontier under the Convention of May, 1881. As to Servia, as soon as an application to that effect is received from the Porte, Her Majesty's Government will instruct their Representative at Constantinople to join with the Representatives of the other Powers in the consideration of the amount of debt to be borne by that Kingdom.

MR. BOURKE: And will Her Majesty's Representatives all be instructed in the same way as regards Greece?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The arrangements as regards Greece have not yet exactly been carried out.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—MURROE PETTY SESSIONS.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, If he will inform the House under what section of the Petty Sessions Act the recent proceedings at Murroe, before Messrs. Lyster and Bourke, were carried on?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): Sir, the sections which the hon. Member requires for the information of the House are Sections 10 and 11, Sections 13 to 16, both inclusive, and Section 19.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Messrs. Lyster and Bourke, who were sent down to review the proceedings of the local magistrates at Murroe Petty Sessions, are two of the recently appointed temporary resident magistrates of four months' service each; whether the Bench which heard the case in the first instance consisted of Major Evanson and Captain Longbourne, both resident magistrates of experience, and three other local magistrates of equal experience; if it is the case that the prisoners established an alibi to the satisfaction of this Bench, resulting in a unanimous dismissal of the charge; and, whether there is any precedent for the course which has been adopted of sending two magistrates to review and set aside the ruling of five local magistrates of experience?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): Sir, in reply to a Question on this subject by the hon. Member on a former day, I stated that no magistrates were sent down to review the proceedings of the local magistrates at Murroe Petty Sessions; and now, in reply to the hon. Member's first Question, I repeat my former statement. Mr. Lyster, named in this Question, is a barrister of 20 years' standing, with whose legal knowledge and ability I am myself acquainted. Mr. Bourke, also named in this Question, is a gentleman of whose competency as a Resident Magistrate the Government is satisfied.

MR. TOTTENHAM: What was their length of service as Resident Magistrates?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): Mr. Lyster was a local magistrate as long as I have known him.

MR. TOTTENHAM: I am asking about their experience as Resident Magistrates.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): Both these gentlemen are of four months' standing as Resident Magistrates. As to the second Question, I am now informed that the Bench referred to consisted, not of one Resident Magistrate and three local magistrates—as I formerly stated in error—but of the two Resident Magistrates named in this Question and three local magistrates. Major Evanson's professional and magisterial experience extends to 15 years. Captain Longbourne has been some months a Resident Magistrate. The local magistrates were gentlemen of standing as local magistrates. As to the third and fourth Questions, there seems to be some confusion in the mind of the hon. Member between refusing an application to receive informations for an indictable offence and dismissing on the merits a case of summary jurisdiction. The latter is a final adjudication, subject in certain cases to appeal; the former leaves it open to the Crown, if so advised, to apply again for informations—a course which, for the reasons I have already stated to the House, I, as Public Prosecutor in Ireland, considered it my duty to take in this case.

MR. GIBSON: Had Mr. Lyster and Mr. Bourke, the two gentlemen sent down, instructions to tell the local magistrates that they should not sit on the Bench with them, and did Mr. Barrington and the other local magistrates claim a right to sit?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): No, Sir; they did nothing of the kind.

MR. GIBSON: Who did not?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): The Resident Magistrates made no such statement.

MR. J. LOWTHER: Did the local magistrates sit on the Bench?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON):

They did sit, and were not interfered with.

MR. TOTTENHAM: Did the prisoners establish an alibi to the unanimous satisfaction of the Bench?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): No, Sir; the Bench was not unanimous. If they were unanimous in dismissing the charge, they would have usurped a jurisdiction they did not possess. Having heard the evidence, it was their duty to send the case forward, and if they arrived at any other decision it would have been my duty to have it quashed in the Queen's Bench.

AFRICA (SOUTH)—NATAL— LANGILABALELE.

MR. GORST asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether on May 27th, 1880, Lord Kimberley stated to a deputation of the Aborigines Protection Society that he at that time wished Sir Bartle Frere to consider whether Langilabalele might not be released at once, and that he hoped they might find that that matter might be considered at an end; what causes prevented the fulfilment of Lord Kimberley's expectations, and what reason there is to anticipate that the present application to Sir Henry Bulwer will be more effective: and, whether the Correspondence between the Colonial Office and Sir Bartle Frere and Sir Henry Bulwer respectively, will be laid upon the Table of the House?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Sir, the Secretary of State certainly hoped at the time referred to that there would be no insurmountable obstacle to the early return of Langilabalele to Natal. However, the unsettled state of Native affairs in Natal, as elsewhere in South Africa, consequent on the Zulu and Transvaal Wars, prevented its being further entertained. The present moment seems more opportune for raising the question. The Correspondence with Sir Bartle Frere will be found in Blue Book C 2695 (1880), and that with Sir Henry Bulwer will follow in due course.

MR. GORST gave Notice that if Langilabalele were still in captivity at the time when the House met next year he should call attention to the shameful manner in which he had been treated, and should move an Address to Her Majesty on the subject.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—
COURT VALUERS.

MR. GIBSON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he can state what were the recommendations of the Irish Land Commission in reference to the appointment of official Court Valuers; at what date did the Treasury assent to the number and salaries of the valuers; how many official communications were made in writing by the Land Commission to the Irish Government on the subject; and, is there any official document of any kind which can be placed on the Table to show the decision of the Irish Land Commission on this important question, and the reasons for it?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the only information I feel myself at liberty to give the right hon. and learned Member in reply to this Question is that the official recommendation of the Land Commissioners for the appointment of official valuers is dated the 28th of August last, and that after the interchange of a Correspondence between the Land Commissioners and the Irish Government, and the Treasury and the Irish Government, the assent of the Treasury to the propositions put forward by the Land Commissioners was received in Dublin on the 5th of September, and communicated to the Land Commissioners next day. The matter had also been the subject of semi-official representations. I may say that the Land Commissioners unanimously object to Papers on this question being given to Parliament; and they must be allowed to be judges in the matter.

MR. GIBSON: Would the right hon. Gentleman answer the last paragraph of my Question?

MR. TREVELYAN: The only official document is the recommendation of the 27th August last, and the Land Commissioners are decidedly against producing that.

SCIENCE AND ART—HISTORICAL
MANUSCRIPTS' COMMISSION.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Why no Report has this year been issued by the Historical Manuscripts Commission, and how soon the Commission will have completed its labours; and, why no Report has this

year been made by the Deputy Keeper of Records, in accordance with the Act of Parliament in that behalf?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, in reply, said, that the last Report of this Commission was issued in 1881; and a further voluminous Report of about 900 pages was, he believed, being prepared, and would before long be presented. It was impossible to state when the Commission would complete its labours. If the right hon. Gentleman would refer to last Friday's Votes, he would find that the Report of the Deputy Keeper of Records had been presented.

NAVY—SOUTH-WEST COAST OF
AFRICA.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, What is usually the Naval force on the South West Coast of Africa, specifying the character of the vessels, and what are the duties those vessels are expected to perform?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: Sir, the Naval Force usually maintained on the South-West Coast of Africa consists of a corvette, two gun vessels, two gun-boats, and a paddle vessel. The general duties of the Squadron, as stated in the Station Order Book, are the prevention of the revival of the Slave Trade, the protection of legitimate commerce, and the rendering of all proper assistance to the Governors-in-Chief of the West African Settlements and of the Gold Coast Colony, and their administrators, and to Her Majesty's Consular officers.

AFRICA (WEST COAST)—THE CONGO.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If the Government will provide that from time to time Consular visits shall be paid to the Congo River, with the view of furnishing periodical reports on subjects bearing upon the relations of our commerce in that part of Africa?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Sir, Her Majesty's Consul at Loanda has been called upon to furnish such information as he is able to procure with regard to the trade in the Congo. The delay which has taken place in the preparation of Mr. Cohen's annual Report is probably owing to a recent illness. The Congo lies within the Consular district of Her Majesty's Consul at Loanda,

who is consequently enabled to visit it should he think it necessary to do.

**PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND)
ACT, 1882—TREATMENT OF CROWN
WITNESSES—FRANCIS KEANE.**

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If it is a fact that one Francis Keane, while a servant in the employment of Mr. Denis Malony, of Quin, in the Tulla Union, county Clare, was arrested as a witness under the Crimes Act, and detained by the police for ten weeks, pending the trial which took place at the recent Ennis Quarter Sessions, where Keane gave evidence; if, immediately he had served their purpose, he was conveyed to the Tulla Workhouse, and admitted by the Master, the police sergeant undertaking to provide the usual ticket of admission; and, if it is a fact that such ticket has not yet been provided; and, as Keane has lost his employment through the action of the police in detaining him, what steps the Government propose to take to relieve the Tulla Union of what threatens to be a permanent burden upon the rates?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, Francis Keane swore an information against two men for assault and compelling him to leave the employment of his master, who was "Boycotted." He was bound over in the usual form to appear against them. On the day of the hearing he did not appear, and a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was arrested, and then gave his evidence. One of the defendants was fined, and the other committed for trial to Quarter Sessions. Pending the trial Keane was provided, at his own request, with food and lodging by the police. After the disposal of the case at Quarter Sessions, as he could not get employment and was homeless, at his own request he was transferred to the Tulla Workhouse on the 11th of November, and the admission ticket procured by the constable was handed by him to the master of the workhouse on the 13th of November. On the 21st of November he was discharged from the workhouse, and went that night to Feakle Police Barrack, where he now remains under the protection of the police. The proceedings in the case were not under the Prevention of Crime Act; they were initiated before the Act had passed.

**ARMY (AUXILIARY FORCES)—THE
ANTRIM ARTILLERY.**

MR. BIGGAR asked the Secretary of State for War, If it is a fact that the Commanding Officer of the Antrim Artillery (it not being embodied) has issued an order directing the Officers of that Regiment to have their visiting cards printed in a particular manner, and according to his own fancy; if so, has he any right to interfere in their private affairs; and, has he any right to prevent the Officers attending a levee at Dublin Castle, or going to any public entertainment, in their silver-laced uniform, under threat of placing in arrest the Officers so doing?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: No, Sir; the officer commanding the corps formerly designated the Antrim Artillery states that he issued no such order, but merely a request that on their visiting cards, when they chose to have the name of the regiment engraved, they should use the official title—namely, the 2nd Brigade North Irish Division Royal Artillery. In answer to the second Question, the officer commanding states that he issued no order, but merely a request to his officers, entirely unaccompanied by any threat of arrest, to make the alterations in their uniform which would assimilate them to the gold-laced uniform of the Royal Artillery as contemplated by the dress regulations of June, 1881. The officer commanding has no power to order the discontinuance of the silver-laced uniform until it is worn out.

**RAILWAYS (IRELAND) — THE ENNIS
AND WEST CLARE RAILWAY.**

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If his attention has been called to the resolutions adopted within the last few days by the Associated Cesspayers of the Baronies of Inchiquin, Mozarta, Corcomroe, and Kerikan, in the county of Clare, pointing out the perilous extent of the failure of the potato crop, and urging the necessity of immediately proceeding with the construction of the Ennis and West Clare Railway as a means of saving the working population from widespread distress; and, whether the Government will regard the evident readiness of the Associated Cesspayers of West Clare to co-operate in any responsibility arising from the

advance of funds by the State as a reason for favourably considering the claims of the project upon the attention of the Administration?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the hon. Member has, I perceive, another Question on the Paper which is practically the same as this—the point in both Questions being that I should pledge the Treasury to advance funds towards the construction of the Ennis and West Clare Railway. This point had already been urged on me by the hon. Member for Clare (Mr. O'Shea), and I must refer the hon. Member to the answer which I gave him, which he will find reported in *The Times* of the 24th instant.

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881—
SEC. 31—FEES ON LOANS.

COLONEL COLTHURST asked the Secretary to the Treasury, Whether the charge of £5 for expenses upon loans of £100, under sec. 31, Land Act (Ireland) 1881, has been or will be reduced now that £50 has been fixed as the maximum.

MR. COURTNEY: Yes, Sir; the fee for a loan of £50, and less than £75, has been fixed at £3; and that for a loan of £75, and less than £100, at £4.

PRISONS (ENGLAND)—BRIXTON
MILITARY PRISON.

MR. BOURKE asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether facilities are afforded to the Governor of Brixton Military Prison for providing the prisoners under his charge with work in their cells at their respective trades, or in occupations other than picking oakum; how many hours a-day a prisoner is alone in his cell, and what occupation is provided for him during those hours; and, whether the solitary confinement carried out under existing arrangements has been frequently observed to conduce to the injury of the mental and physical condition of the prisoners?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, as that was a military Question, his hon. Friend the Financial Secretary to the War Office would reply to it.

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: Sir, I have referred this question to Sir Edmund Ducane, the Surveyor General of Prisons, and he reports as follows:—

Mr. Kenny

Brixton Prison is now a military prison; but the rules are substantially the same as those of all civil prisons, and the treatment of prisoners the same. The majority of the prisoners are employed at oakum-picking, and, according to the regulations, at shot drill. Others are employed in various works about the prison, and in tailoring and repairing shoes. The prisoners who are employed in their cells are there at all times, except during chapel, exercise, or shot drill, according to the practice of all the civil prisons. No report has been made, to Sir Edmund Ducane's knowledge, of any injury to the mental or physical condition of the prisoners.

MR. BOURKE: Will the hon. Baronet make an inquiry whether any employment can be found?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: Yes, Sir; I will communicate with the Director General of Clothing, and ascertain whether any other industrial employment can be found for those of the prisoners who are eligible for it.

CRIME (IRELAND)—THE MAAM-
TRASNA MURDERS—REWARDS TO
WITNESSES.

MR. M'COAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Irish Government intends to mark its appreciation of the courage displayed by the witnesses, other than the two prisoners who turned Queen's evidence, by whose testimony the arrest and conviction of the Maamtrasna murderers was mainly brought about, by conferring on them some reward commensurate with the great service thus rendered to public justice, and calculated to encourage similar aid in the discovery and punishment of grave crime?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the Irish Government are of opinion that the witnesses referred to in this Question should be rewarded; but the amounts have not yet been fixed.

IRELAND — RECENT INFLAMMATORY
SPEECHES—MR. W. REDMOND.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If his attention has been called to the Report of a meeting at Cork, reported in the "Cork Constitution" of 22nd instant, and to the speech of Mr.

W. Redmond, who is reported to have said, *inter alia*—

"The teaching of the Land League was, that, if any man was untrue to the cause, he should be Boycotted. Now, he said to them, if there was a farmer present, he advised him that, reduction or no reduction, he should not part one cent of rent until he saw that himself and his family had all that was necessary for them. Consequently, he advised those present, and those who his words might reach, to use moderately and wisely the expedient weapon of Boycotting towards every man who betrays the National cause."

"He, as a Nationalist, yearned to see Ireland a free Nation, untrammelled by any shadow of British Law, but he would say to them that no League would do that; it could only be accomplished by the swords and united arms of the Irish people;"

"It was the duty of every man, not only in rebel Cork but in Ireland, to prepare for that revolution;"

whether he has taken any steps to verify the Report in question; and, if correct, in what manner the seventh section of the Crimes Prevention Act bears upon Mr. Redmond's action; and, what steps Her Majesty's Government propose to take; and, whether this is the same person who was lately confined as a suspect?

MR. REDMOND: Before the right hon. Gentleman answers the Question, I would like to ask him on the same subject whether he is aware that the paper in which this report appeared is the recognized organ of the Orange Party in the South of Ireland; whether, in considering the subject of this Question, he has had before him a full report, and not maliciously garbled extracts of the speech referred to; and whether the general purport of that speech was not to dissuade the people from any breach of the existing law, and from any departure from the lines of Constitutional agitation?

MR. TOTTENHAM: I should like also to supplement my Question, Sir, by asking whether the hon. Member was not present himself at that meeting?

MR. REDMOND: I was present, and that is the reason why I added the Question. ["Order!"] My presence proved to me the inaccuracy of the quotation. [*Cries of "Order!"*]

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, the attention of the Government has been directed to the speech referred to in this Question, and it is at present under consideration. The Government has the report of more than one paper before it.

STATE OF IRELAND (APPREHENDED DISTRESS)—THE WEST COAST.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he is now prepared to state what Reports by Inspectors of the Irish Local Government Board, with reference to the existence or apprehension of exceptional distress in districts of Ireland, he will lay upon the Table before this Session closes?

MR. TREVELYAN: The hon. Member for Clare, having already asked me for the Reports with reference to the Ennistymon and Corofin Unions, I have considered his request and have no objection to letting him have them. If the hon. Member will state what other Reports he wishes for, I will then consider whether or not they should be given.

STATE OF IRELAND (APPREHENDED DISTRESS)—TOBERCURREY, CO. SLIGO.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been drawn to a Resolution adopted on the 20th instant, by the Tobercurrey (county Sligo) Board of Guardians, pointing out that the complete failure of the potato crop, the partial destruction of the oat crop, and the total want of employment for the labouring class, render the certain existence of great distress during the ensuing winter, and recommending State advances to farmers for the improvement of their holdings, and the prompt establishment of reproductive works for the employment of labour; and, whether the Government will consider the recommendations of the Guardians, and order a special inquiry to be held without delay in the Tobercurrey Union?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have received a copy of the Resolution referred to by the hon. Member, which is to the effect quoted in his Question; and I beg to say that the Local Government Board Inspector in charge of the Tobercurrey Union has been directed to proceed to that Union and to furnish a special report respecting the apprehended distress.

SCIENCE AND ART DEPARTMENT—NEW CENTRAL MUSEUM, DUBLIN.

MR. SEXTON, asked the Secretary to the Treasury, What space was allotted

in the programme issued on 5th September 1881 for guidance of architects competing for the building of the New Central Museum in Dublin, and whether the space so allotted in such programme has been altered contrary to the terms of the original programme; if so, what alteration has been made, and whether such space so allotted is greater than that occupied by the present Royal Irish Academy Museum; and, if it be not greater, whether the Treasury, when preparing the programme, had received any, and what, information that the present buildings of the Royal Irish Academy were adequate for the present and future requirements of the institution.

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, I think some words have been omitted in the hon. Member's Question; but I will answer it so far as I can understand it. The total floor space in the new Museum was fixed at 100,000 square feet; this was the figure recommended by the Science and Art Department, and adopted in the advertisements for the preliminary competition. No alteration was made in this respect in the final competition. One quarter of the whole space, or 25,000 square feet, was allotted to the Art Collections, including those of the Royal Irish Academy. This also was recommended by the Science and Art Department, and has been adhered to throughout. The Treasury accepted both the total amount of space and its general distribution on the responsibility of the Science and Art Department; and we are assured by them that there can be no difficulty in appropriating a sufficient amount of space for the valuable collections of the Royal Irish Academy.

ELECTORAL LAW—LEGISLATION.

MR. BIGGAR (for Mr. HEALY) asked Mr. Attorney General, If, before reintroducing the Ballot Bill and the Corrupt Practices Bill next Session, he will consider the desirability of embodying them in one measure as an Electoral Law Bill, instead of passing them separately?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES), in reply, said, he was well aware that there might be certain advantages in bringing the Bills referred to by the hon. Member into one Act; but, at the same time, there was the difficulty of overloading the Bill, and thus getting a number of opponents to

it if attempted to be passed in its entirety. As far as he was personally concerned, he did not think he should have much objection to the proposal of the hon. Member; but he would give his attention to the matter.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked whether the Corrupt Practices Bill would be brought forward at an early period of next Session.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he could not give any assurance on the subject; but he hoped that might be so.

EGYPT (RE-ORGANIZATION)—THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with reference to a telegram from Paris in the "Times" of November 24th, Whether Her Majesty's Government propose to agree to a prolongation, for a considerable period, of the powers of the International Tribunals in Egypt, on their present footing as regards jurisdiction over the Khedive and the revenues and lands of Egypt, and to advise or request the Egyptian Government to agree to such a prolongation without waiting for the settlement of the future constitution of that Country?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Sir, a proposal of the Egyptian Government is, at the present time, under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. I do not think it desirable that I should at present state the purport of it.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION— COURT VALUERS—BERNARD KANE.

CAPTAIN AYLMER asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Bernard Kane, recently appointed Court Valuer by the County Court Judge of the County Leitrim, is the same person who was dismissed under a sealed order of the Poor Law Commissioners in 1867 as unfit to hold the office of poor rate collector; whether such order bears date 8th May 1867; and, whether Bernard Kane resides with his brother Thomas, a small farmer occupying a farm of 23 acres and £16 5s. valuation, in the townland of Sheffield, County Leitrim, and to what amount (if any) is he himself rated for the relief of the poor?

Mr. Sexton

MR. TREVELYAN: I find, Sir, that Mr. Bernard Kane, referred to in this Question, was dismissed from the office of poor rate collector under a sealed Order of the Poor Law Commissioners, which is dated the 8th of May, 1867. The circumstances of his employment by the County Court Judge for Leitrim are that at the April Quarter Sessions the County Court Judge required the assistance of a valuer. The Land Commissioners were unable to supply one, and he asked the Clerk of the Peace and Sub-Sheriff of the county to recommend some person on whom he could rely. The Sub-Sheriff recommended Mr. Kane, and the County Court Judge states that no one objected to him, and that, so far as he is aware, there have been no appeals in the cases in which he acted as valuer. He lives with his brother, who holds a farm of 23 acres, the Poor Law valuation of which is £16 5s., as stated in the Question. He holds no land of his own, and is not rated for the relief of the poor. His occupation is that of a land surveyor, and he has been employed in that capacity and as land valuer both by landlords and tenants.

EGYPT—THE SUEZ CANAL.

MR. RATHBONE asked the President of the Board of Trade, If he could give a Return showing what proportion of the commerce of the East comes through the Suez Canal, and what portion round the Cape; and also the amount of commerce between India and China to England and the rest of Europe respectively previous to the opening of the Suez Canal and in 1879, 1880, and 1881?

MR. JOHN HOLMS (for Mr. CHAMBERLAIN) said, there would be no objection on the part of the Board of Trade to grant the Return asked for by the hon. Member so far as the information was in their possession.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT, 1882 — THE COMPENSATION CLAUSES.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been drawn to certain proceedings at Edenderry, King's County, on the 15th instant, in a case of a claim for compensation under the Crimes Act, made by one Thomas Smith, and heard before Mr. C.H. Teeling,

B.L.; whether Captain L'Estrange, R.M. for the district, was examined as a witness in the case, and, being pressed by the Court to give an explanation of his general statement as to the condition of the district, replied that "he was glad to find he had forgotten all the old stories;" whether he subsequently made statements concerning gentlemen in Court which they openly characterized as base calumnies; and, whether, finally, the Investigator ruled that he would not allow Captain L'Estrange to continue; that some of his observations had been highly improper, and that all the statements he had made would not be reported by the Court to the Lord Lieutenant, as many of them had been both improper and irrelevant; and, what explanation is offered of the conduct of Captain L'Estrange in Court, and in what manner the Government propose to mark their sense of it?

MR. TREVELYAN: Sir, I have received a report on the facts of this case from Mr. Teeling, who acted as the investigator on the occasion, and to whom the hon. Member's Question had been referred, in which he states that, while he regretted that Captain L'Estrange should have made any public observations on the case outside his evidence in the witness-box, and so have drawn replies from other persons in Court and introduced matter which was irrelevant and outside the scope of the inquiry, the form of the Question suggests a view and account of the matter, so far as Captain L'Estrange's action is concerned, very much in excess indeed of what actually occurred; and Mr. Teeling adds that he derived the greatest assistance from the evidence given by Captain L'Estrange as to the state of the district where the outrage occurred. Some of Captain L'Estrange's observations appear to have been indiscreet, and he will be informed that such is the view of the Irish Government.

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881 — CLAUSE 31—LOANS.

MR. SYNAN asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, in order to facilitate loans to tenants under the 31st Clause of the Irish Land Act of 1881 for the improvement of their holdings, and thereby provide employment for the agricultural labouring population during the coming severe winter, the Treasury

will order the Board of Public Works (Ireland) to dispense with the rule requiring the tenant to execute a deed of covenant with two solvent sureties for the repayment of the loan?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, the Government have, as the hon. Member is aware, considered carefully what measures it may be their duty to take in view of the distress which, I am afraid, we must look forward to as very probable in certain limited parts of Ireland. But we cannot think it desirable to dispense with the rule requiring the tenant to execute a deed of covenant with two sureties for the repayment of a loan. This question has had very careful consideration in former times, and we do not think that it is a good method of operating on behalf of the population. The exaction of sureties causes no delay or practical hardship. These sureties, which are needful in the public interest, impose a wholesome check upon applications, they establish a sort of local testimony in favour of the applicant, and they encourage a principle of co-operation and mutual aid among the people. These are among the reasons which led us to the adoption of this rule.

THE ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND.

MR. GORST asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Why the Royal Patriotic Fund has not been so managed by the Royal Commission as to leave funds available for the relief of the widows and orphans of the soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the Egyptian War?

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, the state of the case is this. The hon. and learned Gentleman is correct in intimating that under the original Commission the Royal Commission were not only not under any obligation to reserve any balance for future wars, but they were restricted by the terms of the Commission from doing so. In 1881 a change was introduced into those terms, and they are now enabled to devote any savings which may accrue to a general war fund for the widows and orphans of soldiers. This provision has not been acted upon, and I am not aware that there are funds available for acting upon it at present; but it is under the consideration both of the Commission and of the Government—that is to say, the War Department. It will be satisfac-

tory to the hon. and learned Gentleman to learn that, as we are informed, the actuaries estimate that eventually there will be a saving to a considerable amount.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked if that amount would be available for the widows and orphans of sailors as well as of soldiers?

MR. GLADSTONE said, he did not like to answer that, not having referred to the Commission. The only information he obtained referred to soldiers.

Subsequently,

SIR JOHN HAY asked, Whether the rules governing cases of claims by widows of soldiers were applicable to the widows of seamen and Marines?

MR. GLADSTONE said, he had heard that was so, and that the widows of seamen and Marines were entitled to participate in the benefit of the fund.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)— SHERIFFS.

SIR BALDWIN LEIGHTON asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he can state approximately the number of applications made during the last two or three years to be excused serving the office of sheriff in England and Wales on account of the expense; and, considering the anomaly of charging the cost of administering justice on private individuals who can sometimes ill afford it; considering also that the expenses of the office were formerly paid out of the receipts from escheated and other estates, and that there is a similar fund now known as the "Crown Nominee Account," which would about cover these expenses, whether the Government, in their proposed relief to local burdens, would consider the propriety of relieving sheriffs of these anomalous charges?

MR. GLADSTONE: I have made inquiries at the Council Office in regard to the number of persons who have applied to be excused serving the office of sheriff. The total number nominated for the office in England and Wales before "pricking" is 144, being three for each county. In 1880 there were 12 applications to be excused, in 1881 there were 11, and in 1882 there were 12. I have no knowledge that the expenses of the sheriffs were ever paid out of escheats, nor am I aware that they have

Mr. Synan

any claim upon the estates of intestates. With regard to the question of relieving sheriffs from their expenses, the Government look upon it as so much connected with the general position of the unpaid magistracy and the subject of local government, that we do not purpose to entertain it as a separate matter.

SIR BALDWIN LEIGHTON said, he should call attention to this subject next Session, unless, in the meanwhile, some measure for relief was proposed by the Government.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—RESOLUTIONS OF PRIVATE MEMBERS.

MR. CAUSTON asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether private Members having proposed additional Resolutions on the Paper in relation to Procedure will have the opportunity of having their Motions discussed before the close of the Session?

MR. GLADSTONE: With respect to the Question whether we are to invite the House to enter upon the consideration of the additional Resolutions now on the Paper, and proposed by various hon. Members, I have to observe that the proposal is somewhat formidable. These Resolutions happen to be 39 in number; and as each Resolution on Procedure takes about as much time to settle, on an average, as an Article of Religion, it is a question whether it could be done in the course of this year, and I do not think the House would be disposed to undertake the matter. I have had communications to the effect that, even if those Gentlemen who proposed Resolutions were disposed to make a further sacrifice of their time, about which we are not quite certain, yet those who have not proposed Resolutions would undoubtedly feel a very great disinclination to do so. But there is another question to be considered. Would the Gentlemen who have proposed these Resolutions—and among them there are certainly one or more subjects that deserve consideration on their merits—have any prospect of a satisfactory consideration of them in asking the House to prolong its Sitting? We have come to the conclusion that they would not; and, therefore, we do not propose that consideration. It would be for them to determine whether, at a future period—

that is to say, when the regular Session commences—they would take advantage of that opportunity.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN: May I ask a Question arising out of the last one? A statement was made here on Friday night to the effect that the House was likely to meet again in January. [*General cries of "No, no!"*] May I ask the Prime Minister whether the House is likely to meet then, or in February as usual?

MR. GLADSTONE: I do not regard myself as in any degree responsible for that statement. I did make a reference to the subject; but various exclamations which met me without any sort of discord or conflict, and which, in fact, appeared to me to express in a considerable degree the evident sense of the House, quite convinced me that it would be highly unsatisfactory to meet in January.

PIERS AND HARBOURS (IRELAND)—FISHERY HARBOURS—A DEPUTATION.

MR. BLAKE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he will receive the Members representing Irish Maritime Counties who wished to lay personally before the Treasury their views respecting the desirability of renewing the advances in aid of local efforts towards the construction of Fishery Harbours; and, if so, if he will be so good as to state on what day it will suit his convenience?

MR. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, he had written to the hon. Member on the subject, and he was in hopes that he would not have put the Question. He thought that the hon. Gentleman must see that he had been exposed to a considerable amount of extra labour owing to the Resolutions then under consideration; and he must, therefore, decline to undertake to give an answer to the hon. Gentleman's Question in the affirmative.

MR. BLAKE said, that he understood, on a former occasion, the right hon. Gentleman said it was impossible for him to receive such deputations during the pressure of the Parliamentary Session. [*"Order, order!"*]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Gentleman is not in Order in debating an answer.

MR. BLAKE: All I was going to ask was whether the right hon. Gentle-

man would receive them during the recess?

MR. GLADSTONE said, the hon. Member had misunderstood him. What he said was that he would see, during the Sittings of the House, whether he should be able to receive the deputation referred to by the hon. Member. But the hon. Member might know, or suppose, that the consequence of this Session was to throw other Business into arrear; and he was not, therefore, at liberty to make any engagement of the kind requested at the present moment.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION— COURT VALUERS.

MR. WARTON (for Mr. LEWIS) asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, having regard to the fact that the three months temporary appointment of Court Valuers will expire in a very few weeks, he will appoint an early day for the discussion of the Motion on the Paper as regards the interference of the Government with the Court Valuers?

MR. GLADSTONE said, that his right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland would be quite ready, on an early day, to state what the proposals of the Government were on this matter. Perhaps it would be for the convenience of the House to say that he would do it on Thursday.

MR. GIBSON asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Whether he would state at the same time, having regard to the deputation he received against those appointments, and to the statements of the Prime Minister in regard to them on Friday last, he would give the House some information as to the reasons which justified the original appointments?

MR. TREVELYAN said, that, with the indulgence of the House, he should be ready, when he made his statement, to give such information as the House would be willing to receive.

MR. GIBSON said, he wished the information given to the House before the statement was made upon it.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)— MURROE PETTY SESSIONS.

MR. TOTTENHAM gave Notice, in reference to the answer of the Attorney General for Ireland to Questions 17 and 18, that he would on Thursday ask the right hon. and learned Gentlemen, Whe-

ther, in the cases therein referred to, he had not considered the matters too serious to be dealt with otherwise than by a jury, although the magistrates had unanimously agreed to dismiss the charge?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON) gave Notice that on Thursday, in reply to the hon. Gentleman, he should inform him that, on the occasion to which he referred, the magistrates had not unanimously agreed to dismiss the charge.

MR. J. LOWTHER asked whether the Attorney General for Ireland adhered to his statement that it was the duty of the Irish Sessions Court to return the case for trial, though they thought there was no case?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON) said, that he did not say that, or anything like it.

MR. J. LOWTHER begged the right hon. and learned Gentleman's pardon. He was understood to say that the duties of the Sessional Court were analogous to those of the Grand Jury.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON) said, that he did not mention the words "Grand Jury." What he said was that there was some confusion in the mind of the hon. Member for Leitrim (MR. TOTTENHAM) as to receiving and dismissing an information and investigating and dismissing a charge. The latter was a final adjudication, subject, in certain cases, to appeal, while the former left it open to lay a fresh information.

MR. J. LOWTHER admitted that that was quite a different question. He understood the right hon. and learned Gentleman to say that if the Sessions Court in Ireland found a *prima facie* case to prosecute it was their duty to send it for prosecution.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON) said, that it was not the duty of the magistrates, when an application was made for an information, to decide between conflicting evidence; but if there was a proper case for investigation it was their duty to send it before a jury.

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881—

SEC. 31—FEES ON LOANS.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant

Mr. Blake

of Ireland, If the Irish Government have taken any steps to notify to the tenant farmers of Ireland the facilities for borrowing money for the improvement of their lands given by the Land Act of last year, and the new Rule of the Treasury lowering the minimum amount that may be borrowed to £50, and the minimum valuation of the borrower to £10?

MR. COURTNEY (for Mr. TREVELYAN): The suggestion of my hon. and learned Friend has been anticipated. A formal notice of the changes has been sent to the Dublin papers, together with advance copies of the amended instructions to borrowers; and a supply of the latter is being procured as speedily as possible. Moreover, special notice has been sent to applicants who had been refused prior to the change, owing to the operation of the £100 rule. I hope the country newspapers and any societies that take an interest in the farming class of Ireland will assist in disseminating this information.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER asked whether arrangements would not be made to facilitate collective applications; and if that were done, would not the Treasury be able to advance loans at a less cost than to individual tenants?

MR. COURTNEY: I will look into the matter.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT— RELIEF OF PAUPER TENANTS.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he is aware that numbers of tenants in Mayo and other parts of Ireland are too poor to avail themselves of the Arrears Act; and, whether the Irish Government are prepared to investigate the cases of such tenants, and afford them such relief as may save them from being evicted from their homes and farms?

MR. TREVELYAN: I am afraid the hon. Member asks me to promise what could not be performed. The Irish Government have no power to grant relief to tenants who do not come under the provisions of the Arrears Act.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether it was a fact that magistrates in the county of Longford had refused to take affidavits from tenants seeking to obtain the benefit of the Arrears Act, thereby

compelling the tenants in many cases to go long distances in search of a Commissioner of Affidavits, to whom they had to pay a fee; whether the refusal of the magistrates was warranted by the law; and whether, if that were not so, he would endeavour to have the practice discontinued?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): Sir, I am informed, in reply to my inquiries, that magistrates in the County Longford have declined to take affidavits under the Arrears Act, and that in one instance, at all events, a Petty Sessions Clerk in that county, being a Commissioner for taking affidavits, has taken them for his usual fee as such Commissioner. Immediately on learning this, for the first time last Friday, the Lord Lieutenant caused the following telegram to be despatched to each of the Resident Magistrates:—

“It is His Excellency's desire that you afford every possible facility to tenants desiring to make affidavits under the Arrears Act, and that, so far as possible, you use your influence with the local magistrates to induce them to follow a like course.”

His Excellency's telegram has, I believe, been already acted on.

MR. PARNELL asked whether the Lord Lieutenant had sent similar telegrams to the magistrates of other counties where the same difficulty had arisen?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): I am not aware, and I am quite sure the Irish Government are not aware, that the same difficulty has occurred anywhere else; but if the hon. Member tells me where the places are to which he refers I shall take upon myself to see that similar telegrams are sent.

CENTRAL ASIA—ADVANCE OF RUSSIA.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he will state to the House the present limit of the advance of the Russian forces in Central Asia in the direction of Merv and of Herat, according to the latest information in possession of Her Majesty's Government?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Sir, according to the information in the possession of Her Majesty's Government, the

furthest point occupied by Russian troops is Gevers, or Gawors, on the road between Asterabad and Baba-Deurma; but parties of Russian Cavalry are reported to have traversed the Atak of Deregez.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: How far is that from Merv?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: We do not know the exact point and direction they may have gone, because there is no town.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: Is the hon. Baronet in a position to state distinctly whether or not the Russian forces are in Merv?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: We have no reason to suppose that they are.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT: Are they or are they not?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I am not there myself, so I cannot say; but we have no reason whatever to suppose they are.

MADAGASCAR — REFUSAL OF THE AMBASSADORS TO SIGN A TREATY DRAWN UP BY THE FRENCH FOREIGN OFFICE.

MR. GORST asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether there was any foundation for a statement published to-day in the "Standard" to the effect that on the refusal of the Ambassadors of Madagascar to sign a Treaty drawn up by the French Foreign Office, their flag was removed against their will from the window of the hotel at which they lodged in Paris; whether they, in consequence, left Paris for London; and, if so, whether, on their arrival in England, they would be received in the manner due to the Representatives of a friendly Power?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Her Majesty's Government have not received from Lord Lyons any information on the subject in the course of the day. I have frequently stated that it was the intention of the Ambassadors to visit this country; but we have not yet heard whether they have arrived here or not.

MR. GORST: If they do arrive, will they be received as the Representatives of a friendly Power?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Of course, we shall receive them as such in a fitting manner when they arrive.

Sir Charles W. Dilke

ORDER OF THE DAY.

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PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE — THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—RESOLUTION 13 (THAT THE SEVEN FIRST AND THE THREE LAST OF THE SAID RESOLUTIONS BE STANDING ORDERS OF THE HOUSE).

[THIRTIETH NIGHT.]

Order read, for resuming Further Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That the seven first and the three last of the said Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House."—(*Mr. Gladstone.*)

Motion, by leave, *withdrawn.*

MR. GLADSTONE moved—

"That the first seven and the last three of the said Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House."

The right hon. Gentleman remarked that a Resolution was only passed for the current Session, and consequently there would be no trial of the New Resolutions unless they were made Standing Orders. Speaking generally, there was no reason to regard them as experimental, and the Government proposed that they should at once become Standing Orders. The 8th and 9th Resolutions, which were already Standing Orders, did not require any Resolution to make them such.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That the first seven and the last three of the said Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House."—(*Mr. Gladstone.*)

MR. E. STANHOPE rose to move an Amendment which, he said, was one of considerable importance. He desired, first, however, to make two preliminary observations. In the first place, it was not his object in the least to try to get rid altogether of the 1st Resolution. He did not intend to discuss the policy or principle of that Resolution; and if hon. Members would cast their eyes further down the Notice Paper they would see that he had another Amendment, the effect of which would be to make the 1st Resolution a Standing Order until the end of the next Session of Parliament. In the next place, he wished to say that he sympathized with hon.

Members in various parts of the House who proposed to extend his Amendment. But, at the same time, he felt that some at least of the Resolutions ought to be made Standing Orders; and his present object was to draw a distinction, which he believed to be vital, between the 1st Resolution and the other Resolutions which had been under the consideration of the House. When the Resolutions were first introduced by the Prime Minister, the right hon. Gentleman said—

“Another point is whether these Resolutions should be made Standing Orders. We have not thought it right to lay down any proposal on the subject in definite terms; but, of course, they must be made Standing Orders if they should be found to work usefully. Perhaps they may bear the test of experience so well that we shall ask the House to make them Standing Orders.”—[3 *Hansard*, cclxvi. 1133-4.]

That was in February; but before the month was passed or the Resolutions were discussed, except to a very small extent, the right hon. Gentleman told the House, without a single word of preface or explanation, that he proposed to make all these Resolutions Standing Orders. But the right hon. Gentleman made this very important distinction between the Resolutions up to 12 and those with regard to Standing Committees. He said that the Resolutions with regard to Standing Committees were so thoroughly novel and tentative that they ought to be tried for a Session or two to see how they would work. With respect to all the other Resolutions, except the 1st, they had been considered over and over again in detail by various Committees, they had been constantly before the minds of hon. Gentlemen, they had been recommended for adoption by various Select Committees, and a good many of them had undergone the test of experience, because they had been included by the Speaker in the Rules under the Code of Urgency. But the Clôture Resolution stood in a totally different position. It was an absolutely novel proposal, and so far from having been recommended by any Select Committee, though considered by several, there was at least one Committee which had rejected it, while the minority in its favour consisted of only one Member. A second important distinction was the mode of its adoption. Could anybody doubt that that particular Resolution had been carried against the unanimous feeling of the minority of the House

simply by a Party vote? He desired, therefore, to urge earnestly upon the Prime Minister whether these distinctions should not induce him to make a difference between the 1st Resolution and all the others; whether, in fact, the reasons in favour of making the 1st Resolution a temporary experiment were not stronger even than in the case of the Standing Committees; whether he would not yield to the very earnest expression of opinion of Members on that (the Opposition) side, and allow the Resolution to be tested by experience before making so important an innovation in the Rules which governed the Procedure of that House? He begged to move his Amendment.

Amendment proposed,

To leave out the words “first seven,” and insert the words “second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh.”—(*Mr. E. Stanhope.*)

Question proposed, “That the words ‘first seven’ stand part of the Question.”

SIR JOHN LUBBOCK said, that the affect of the Amendment which he desired to move would be that the 1st and 2nd Rules would remain in force during the present Parliament, and would then lapse unless they were re-enacted. He based his argument on the uncertainty as to how they would act. It must surely be admitted that the 2nd Rule had worked very differently from what was expected. Already they had had two cases in which the adjournment had been moved immediately after Questions. As to the first instance, he would say nothing; but the second certainly did not appear to have been such a case as was contemplated by the Rules. The words of the Rule were that the subject must be one of “urgent public importance.” Now, the Resolution of the hon. Member for East Gloucestershire (*Mr. Yorke*) might or might not have been a clever Party move—he had his own opinion—but that it was a Party move could not be denied, and an inquiry into the circumstances attending the release of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (*Mr. Parnell*) was certainly not an “urgent” matter. Under the old Rule a Member moving the adjournment did so on his own responsibility. His conduct was generally condemned by opponents and coldly received on his own side. But now he obtained the support of many

Gentlemen who shared his responsibility, and even appeared in advance to give a general approval to the view he advocated. With reference to the 1st Resolution, there seemed much force in the proposal of the hon. Gentleman opposite; it was passed in spite of the strenuous protests of the Opposition, and only by a small majority. Moreover, the narrowness of the majority was especially significant when they considered the circumstances. He was not at all complaining that any undue pressure was exercised. Still, what was said by the hon. Member for Aylesbury (Mr. G. Russell) last week—that the wish of the Prime Minister was law to nine-tenths of that (the Ministerial) side of the House—was, no doubt, true. He felt it as much as the hon. Gentleman, and, perhaps, even more. On the occasion when the hon. Member voted, and told against the Government, he came down to the House intending to vote with him; but in consequence of the personal appeal made by the Prime Minister, he voted with the Government. He did not, as regarded the present question, suppose for a moment that any Gentleman voted against his judgment, still less against his conscience; but he believed that some surrendered their judgment to that of the right hon. Gentleman. Well, then, under these circumstances, it was surely not unreasonable to ask that they should give the Rule a trial before making it permanent. He could not put his argument in stronger language than that used by the Prime Minister himself in 1880 with reference to the Rule proposed by the then Government, and now re-affirmed with some modifications. The right hon. Gentleman said—

“There is one more question on which I think I may say a word, although I believe it is in the 2nd Resolution before the House. I do not see the advantage of constituting this new scheme at once a Standing Order. I do not see what is gained for it from the point of view of the Government. The whole thing is necessarily experimental. That is not the fault of the Government; but it is extremely difficult to tell beforehand—I am sure those who have considered the matter most will feel the truth of what I say—what will be the precise effect and operation of the different parts of the Resolution if, which we all deprecate, it should become a practical measure. . . . Why are we to attempt, considering the extreme limitation of our own knowledge of the matter, and the great difficulty of forming confident forecasts in a matter so entirely new—why are we to deal

with it conclusively? Why not leave the new Parliament, which will have to consider the subject, perfectly free and open for its consideration? I am entirely ignorant what advantage the Chancellor of the Exchequer would obtain from making this a Standing Order. Further consideration of the matter must be, and I ask that the further consideration should be, as free and unprejudiced as possible.”—[3 *Hansard*, ccl. 1691-2.]

The hon. Gentleman the present Secretary to the Treasury felt so strongly the force of the argument that he seconded the proposal. In doing so he said—

“In seconding the Amendment, it was true that a Standing Order might be altered; but it would have to be a very bad one indeed before that was done. A Sessional Order, on the other hand, would be tried, and any defects it might have speedily remedied.”—[*Ibid.* 1707.]

He might also logically claim the co-operation of several leading Members on that side of the House. The hon. Member for Swansea (Mr. Dillwyn), in moving—

“That, in the last Session of a Parliament, it is inexpedient to constitute an untried experiment by which the proceedings of Parliament may be materially altered, and the privileges of Members lessened, as a Standing Order of the House,” said, “that a Standing Order was a permanent Order; and, therefore, before it was finally decided on, he thought it was necessary that there should be some experience of its working.”—[*Ibid.* 1706.]

Lastly, he might claim the hon. Member for Burnley (Mr. Rylands), who told them that—

“He, for one, while prepared to give the Government all the aid in his power to prevent the abuse of the privileges of debate, could not consent to inflict a stab on Liberal progress in this country by borrowing from the Continent those new-fangled ideas for controlling the rights of minorities.”—[*Ibid.* 1600.]

The truth was, however, that the Continental Rules were by no means the same. Those now adopted had been tried nowhere. He hoped that they might work well; but it seemed to him that they would be wise in the words of the Prime Minister to leave the next Parliament “free” to deal with the matter in accordance with the experience of the next few years. He concluded by moving the omission of the word “second” from the Amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER said, that the hon. Baronet’s Amendment could not yet be moved.

Mr. GLADSTONE said, that his hon. Friend behind him wished to place the 2nd Resolution in a condition of inferiority by granting to it only the cha-

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racter of a Sessional Order. [Sir JOHN LUBBOCK: No, no!] The Government, to some extent, shared the apprehensions of his hon. Friend with regard to this 2nd Resolution, which was adopted by them in deference to what they believed to be the prevailing sense of the House. It had seemed to them that there was much to be said for the principle that a minority of sensible proportions should be able to bring forward a question independently of the sense of the majority. They had relied a great deal upon the discretion and self-denial which Members, as they hoped, would exercise in interpreting for themselves the phrase "a subject of urgent public importance." That was a check of great moment; but, undoubtedly, it was one that might be rendered valueless by lax consideration, and by lax consideration growing into a habit. It would be invidious in him if he were to refer in detail to what took place last week, and therefore he should not do so. He wished to state that, notwithstanding the fact that the Government entertained misgivings, he was not at present disposed to despair of the working of the Resolution. He felt such a disinclination to shut out the kind of discussion that might be raised on a Motion for Adjournment that he should be very loth, except in a case of evident necessity, to do anything, not only that would reverse the decision to which they came a fortnight ago, but that would weaken or disparage the Resolution. The stress upon the 2nd Resolution might be said to be severe when two Motions for Adjournment had been made on two successive days. But they ought, in fairness, to remember that the position of the House during the past six weeks had been very peculiar. It was really marvellous that the House of Commons should meet, and be engaged in steady and rather severe labour for five days a-week, and should allow itself to be tied up to one subject. He could not but feel that that constituted so exceptional a consideration that he thought it would be unfair and inequitable if they were to allow themselves to give too much weight to what had happened, or to what might happen, in circumstances so peculiar. For the reasons which he had given, he could not accede to the Amendment of the hon. Baronet. With regard to the Motion of his hon. Friend

opposite, he had to say that the hon. Member had stated, with perfect candour and accuracy, the facts and the arguments that could be brought to bear upon his side of the question. But, although the change effected by the Resolution had never been recommended by a Committee, he felt sure the hon. Member would admit that it had been recommended by considerable authority. The argument which the hon. Member used in the case of the other Resolutions—namely, that they had experience of them in a state of Urgency—was not only true of the 2nd Resolution, but *a fortiori* true of it; because they had had more than the Resolution in operation under the laws of Urgency, under which laws the Rule was that not only might a particular debate be brought to a close, but that a discussion in Committee or on the Report of a Bill might be closed by the putting of all the remaining Amendments without debate. They had, therefore, had great experience of a still more stringent Rule than the present one. It had been said that the Resolution had been carried by a Party vote. He could not admit that. A very sensible number of Gentlemen belonging to the Liberal Party voted against the Resolution, and, therefore, against the Government. It would have been carried by a Party vote if the Government, in discussing the Resolution, had ventured to give notice that they intended to stand or fall by it. That would have been bringing to bear the authority of the Government in its most stringent form. The whole House, however, understood perfectly well the language which the Government used. What we said was this—and the words were noted by the right hon. Baronet the Member for North Devon (Sir Stafford Northcote)—"We shall urge you; we shall intreat you to adopt this measure for the sake of the House itself; but we recognize the supreme authority of the House in regard to it, and we shall look to that authority to decide the question." It was perfectly well understood that if a majority had not been favourable to the Resolution, the Government would have accepted with the deepest regret the failure of their plan and with extreme misgivings, but still with submission, and would still have continued to discharge the duties of those intrusted with Executive power. He

thought therefore, that when a not inconsiderable majority was found to support this Resolution in the circumstances which actually occurred, and knowing that they had no consequences to apprehend in the event of their giving an opposite vote, it was not accurate to describe a decision so taken by the House as a Party vote. His hon. Friend behind him had quoted a statement made by him in 1880, recommending that the penal Resolution proposed by the Government of that day should be accepted as a Sessional Order only. It was quite true that he made such a recommendation; but there were two things to observe in connection with the circumstances. In the first place, his recommendation was not accepted; and, in the second, he was not aware that he adhered to the recommendation. Though he thought proper to make it, he did not think it was a recommendation which he should press in opposition to the views of the Executive Government of the day. But the recommendation was made in 1880, which was necessarily the last year of the existing Parliament. In a new Parliament the Order would have fallen to the ground, and, consequently, what he said amounted to this—"You have not got the power to give permanence to this Resolution, which must be reconsidered by the new Parliament; therefore, accept it on trial, and let the new Parliament reconsider it by the light of the experience that will have been gained." That was quite a different thing from recommending the adoption of a Resolution as a Sessional Order when a Parliament had still several Sessions to run. What was really meant by the adoption of the present Resolution as a Standing Order? If it were so adopted, it would not lapse of itself during the present Parliament; but it might be altered upon the Motion of any Members. What had been the allegations as to the effects of this Resolution? He had never known a case in which the allegations on both sides had been more widely separated. In the case of the Reform Bill, one side said that the effects would be advantageous, and the other said they would be injurious; but both sides admitted that they would be great. But in this case he who was largely responsible for these Rules, and many others on that side of the House, had always contended that

the effects of the Resolution would be comparatively small—that they would be merely preventive and comparatively small. If that was their expectation, how could they be asked to treat this as a portentous experiment that ought to have only a limited range? On the other side, the allegation was that the effects of the Resolution would be enormous and mischievous. If these expectations were entertained—and entertained, as he was sure they were, in perfect good faith—how could it be expected that the experience of a portion of the Session would satisfy those who foresaw such enormous evils as the results of the Resolutions? It would take a much longer time than that to satisfy those Gentlemen. The House would be exposed, in the course of next Session, to the chance of spending another 19 days, or even half that period, on the re-enactment of those Rules. He was convinced that a moderate time would satisfy his hon. Friend that his fears were groundless; but he was not convinced that his hon. Friend would be converted in the course of the few months of next Session. Therefore, the House would see that the greatest injustice would be done if it were exposed to the chance of spending a long time in the re-enactment of the Rules before they had been in operation long enough to satisfy those who now so greatly feared their effects. In the next few months they could hardly expect that hon. Members would be converted. The hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen) would probably again come down to the House and exert his great powers of eloquence against the Rules, and receive the incense of his admirers in nearly as great abundance as during the present Session. But, by degrees, hon. Members would get reconciled with the Resolutions. The Clôture Resolution represented 19 days' work, and he thought that the House was entitled to ask that it should be enforced for the remainder of the present Parliament. How was it that they had been enabled to carry it? By the fact that the Resolutions had been made the exclusive subject of the attention of the House. If the Government had been reduced to the ordinary time at their disposal, if the Resolutions had been taken from Monday till Thursday and from Thursday to Monday, and had had to be reconciled with the de-

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mands upon public time for Supply and legislative measures, they never could have got through them. They could not, therefore, by any voluntary act on their part, subject this Resolution to the risk of being defeated next year, not upon its merits, but by the difficulties they would have in finding time to again submit it to the House. He trusted that he had shown ample reason why the proposal of the Government should be accepted.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he was sorry the 2nd Resolution had been passed, for he thought it would have been much better to leave the matter to the judgment of the House. At the same time, he concurred with the Prime Minister that the experience of the last few days was not sufficient to enable them to judge as to the operation of the Rule. The House was then working at high pressure, and private Members had no opportunities whatever of bringing on their Motions. It was not surprising, therefore, that the new Procedure should have been made use of for the discussion of topics of urgent public importance. With regard to the question raised by his hon. Friend (Mr. Stanhope), he thought that he was perfectly justified in bringing it on. The Prime Minister had said that the Clôture Resolution was based on high authority. But that consisted of nothing more than a sentence of the late Speaker before a Committee of the House, and referred to nothing approaching *clôture*. Then the Urgency Rules had been relied on as a precedent; but the Urgency Rules were adopted as a temporary expedient, and were most distasteful to the House. The Prime Minister put the position fairly when he said that he had never known a question upon which on each side of the House such diverse views had been taken. On that side of the House they dreaded the operation of this Rule, and thought it an innovation upon the law and practice of Parliament. Having the greatest dread of the results which would accrue from that Resolution, they said that it would only be wise to make an experimental trial of the Rule. They asked that it might be seen how the Rule worked before the yoke was put permanently round their necks. The Prime Minister contended that its effect would be slight, and that if made permanent it could be removed

if it worked badly. But if the Rule worked well in the course of next Session, the Government would find the House more disposed to adopt it than at present. He was not surprised that so great an innovation as this Rule should have taken 19 days to pass; but because of the time required for passing it, the Prime Minister urged that it should be made permanent. Evidently the Prime Minister did not like to take another vote of the House, and was afraid that after the House had had experience of this Rule it would object to putting into the hands of any Government so much arbitrary power as this Rule gave those who had command of a majority in the House. On the other hand, they contended that the House ought to see how the Rule worked before they made it a permanent Order. They declined to increase the power of arbitrary Ministers by giving them the power of *clôture* in perpetuity, and they, therefore, entered their solemn protest against this Rule being made a Standing Order. He hoped his hon. Friend would take a division on the Amendment which he had proposed.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD contended that if this Rule remained in its present form Members would enter into combinations, and not the majority, but the minority of 40 Members rising in their places would govern what Business should be proceeded with. Hon. Members would agree with him that if the Rule should frequently be put in force, as it had been during the last few days, it would have to be followed by the use of the 1st Resolution, and that the Party on the Ministerial side of the House had shown a strong desire to avoid.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE thought that the hon. Member for Salford should not so soon complain against the Rule. Liberals such as he was should be of a more robust fibre. He had as yet had only two days of purgatory. If the hon. Member would be patient, the time would come, no doubt, when he would be able to have his revenge by asking 40 Members to stand up on some occasion when their action would be inconvenient to their political opponents. He had been surprised to hear the Prime Minister argue that the Rule should be made a Standing Order, because its operation would be rare. According to the right hon.

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Gentleman, it was such a poor little Resolution that it was necessary to invest it with the dignity of a Standing Order. The Prime Minister's anxiety to calm the fears of those who dreaded the *clôture* reminded him of the explanation made for the benefit of the ladies, that the lion in *Pyramus and Thisbe* was no lion in reality, but only Smug the joiner. The *clôture*, then, was a harmless expedient after all, and the House was to take the right hon. Gentleman's assurance that the rope which it was asked to put round its neck would be of silk. As a matter of fact, however, who could doubt that the question was far more serious? Whatever else the *clôture* might or might not be, it was, at any rate, a sacrifice of the old dignity and independence of Parliament; and the best arguments in its favour failed to show cause for its use save in a tentative and speculative way. It was said that the Rule was not carried by a Party vote, because a few independent Members voted with the minority; but the fact remained that the majority carried the Resolution under a most urgent Whip, and was composed entirely of Members of one Party. He hoped that the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire would go to a division, so that the Resolution might not be confirmed by the unanimous vote of the House.

BARON HENRY DE WORMS said, he should support the Amendment. If the Rule meant anything it was directed against the minority in that House. The Prime Minister, when he said that the *clôture* was not a Party question, was altogether at variance with the Home Secretary, who had said, in the course of the debate, earlier in the Session, on the Motion of the hon. and learned Member for Brighton (Mr. Marriott), that the question was essentially of a Party character. The Home Secretary had since that time changed his views on this point; but that was his opinion a few months ago. The House would probably think the right hon. and learned Gentleman's earlier declaration the wiser of the two, seeing that the *clôture* was avowedly designed to facilitate the passing of Liberal legislation. That, he was aware, had often been denied; but the speech of the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at Chelsea on the 22nd instant made

the intention of the Government perfectly clear. The hon. Baronet, speaking on that occasion, had said—"The Liberals have been taunted for desiring these Rules only to secure the passing of their own measures. Of course they do." With these words on record, it was evident that the *clôture* was aimed, not at Obstruction, but at Parliamentary opposition, and that, if the Rule became a Standing Order, the House would simply be called upon to register the conclusions of the Government.

MR. MACFARLANE deprecated needless alarm at the probable operation of the Rule. For his own part, he believed that limitations on the right of speech-making would have been equally effective; that it would be well, for example, to limit the length of speeches, and to prohibit the quoting of words used by the Prime Minister more than 40 years ago. It was avowedly an experimental Rule, and therefore he should vote for the Amendment. To have deprived the former division upon it of a Party character, the Prime Minister should not have spoken before the division. If hon. Members could now act independently of Party the Rules would be modified or dropped altogether.

MR. SCLATER-BOOTH said, that formerly the Prime Minister had some excuse for abiding by the Rule, because the others had not been agreed to; but now that they had been passed and formed a code of Draconian severity, the House was placed in a totally different position in considering whether it would dispense with this Rule. He would therefore support the Amendment.

MR. WARTON said, it was true the Prime Minister had stated that he would not resign; but he had never said he would not dissolve. None could forget the solemn way in which the Attorney General excommunicated the hon. Member for Newcastle (Mr. Cowen), and if that did not show Party spirit he did not know what could do so. If there were no Party question now, would the Government dispense with the services of their own Whips, and so furnish no guidance to the Members who would rush into the House at the sound of the Division Bell? Before the majority was only 44—323 against 279. If two Members had walked out and one crossed the floor, the proportions would have been

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8 to 7; and by such a vote their liberties were taken away.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 137; Noes 90: Majority 47.—(Div. List, No. 399.)

MR. CAVENDISH BENTINCK moved to omit from the Resolution the last Rule, which provided that the Speaker should leave the Chair without putting any Question when Committee of Supply stood for Monday or Thursday. The right hon. and learned Gentleman observed that when the late Government proposed to take this power for Mondays only the Liberal Party opposed the proposition. He could come to no other conclusion than that the great Liberal Party still entertained the opinions which they then held, and that they changed their course simply in consequence of the pressure avowed by the hon. Member for Aylesbury (Mr. G. Russell), who informed the House how the Prime Minister influenced nine-tenths of his supporters. Unless some explanation were given he should be bound to think that the political morality of the Liberals was not of a very high order. While on this point, he would read an extract or two from a work composed in 1852 by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the present Home Secretary. It was entitled *The Morality of Public Men*, and was dedicated to the late Earl of Derby. The "Letter" began with this magnificent sentence—

"The confidence of the nation is shaken in public men; it is impossible to predict, not only from week to week, but even from day to day, the opinions which may be advocated, or the course which may be pursued, by men who make their personal convenience the rule of their public policy."

And the right hon. and learned Gentleman went on to say—

"Those who know anything of Constitutional history must view with alarm the introduction of a new political morality, in which a majority is the single virtue, and a minority the only crime."

He thought that, in the present case, the rights of private Members and the Constitutional liberties of the Opposition were being sacrificed to the interests of the Government and the exigencies of the moment.

Amendment proposed, to leave out the words "last three," and insert the

words "tenth and eleventh,"—(Mr. Cavendish Bentinck.)—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words 'last three' stand part of the Question."

MR. GLADSTONE remarked that the House had had ample experience to enable it to decide the question. The proposal would enable the House to perform in a more satisfactory manner than was at present possible its duty of fully discussing the Votes in Supply.

Question put, and *agreed to*.

Main Question put.

Resolved, That the first seven and the last three of the said Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House.

II. Standing Committees.

THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—

RES. 1 (STANDING COMMITTEES ON LAW AND COURTS OF JUSTICE, TRADE, &C.)

MR. GLADSTONE, in rising to move—

"That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may be committed to them respectively,"

said: I think, Sir, the House will expect from me that I should now, not, indeed, address them at any great length, but that I should attempt to set out more fully than I have done heretofore the views of the Government in introducing these Resolutions to the House. This is the more necessary, because, when we approached the general subject, the attention of the House was so attracted by the previous Resolutions, and particularly by the 1st Resolution, that I think it was hardly possible for them to comprehend and appreciate fully the motives with which we invited their attention to this particular subject. There is one admission which we make—namely, that the ground is experimental, and it will be seen what consequences we have attached to that admission. On the other hand, while we admit it to be experimental, I contend with the utmost confidence that this, and not any penal or restrictive Procedure, is the really fruitful field. Looking at the subject as a whole, what is required is that there should be nothing less than what is called a drastic reform of our Procedure; but,

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Sir, in my opinion, a man is not only in error, but he is in inexcusable and stupid error if he believes that a drastic reform in the Procedure of this House can be accomplished by any penal or coercive measures whatever. The measures which we have passed—and I do not undervalue them—will, I have no doubt, be perfectly effectual for cutting off certain gross abuses, and their aggregate effect will be very salutary, as I believe, towards enabling the House to perform its duties; but, in order to measure the whole of the ground that is before us, let us recollect the deplorable condition to which the House has latterly been reduced, and let us ask ourselves whether the whole of the distance between that deplorable condition and a satisfactory condition can possibly be dealt with by what are called penal or restrictive measures. Now, Sir, while we were undergoing the extreme pressure of our difficulties there was a disposition to lay the main blame on that portion of the Irish Members who sit below the Gangway on the other side of the House. But everyone must have been struck with this—that, as we have got to a distance from the occurrences themselves, and consequently have obtained a better perspective in order to appreciate them, there has been a disposition, not in one quarter of the House only, but even among sections of the House the most opposed to those Irish Members, to admit that, after all, there was a great deal of what they did that was to be accounted for by the necessity of their position and by the wants of their country, such as they estimated them to be. I am not, Sir, entering into that question as a question of the merits of the case, but I am entering into it to illustrate my view, which I commend to the reflection of hon. Members, and it is this—that it is idle, unless you get beyond the ground of what is merely restrictive or merely penal, to think that you can bring this House into a condition in which it can meet the general wants and the general and just expectations of the country. Sir, when we look at the House at this moment, we perceive this extraordinary anomaly—on the one hand, a great number of persons anxious and able to work; on the other hand, a great mass of work waiting to be done; and yet a barrier, insurmountable, between the people who want to do the work and the

work that wants to be done. Now, Sir, it is not for me to speak of the mental capacity and power that exists in any quarter of the House excepting that one quarter, the largest, with which I have the honour to be confidentially united. But, speaking of that body which constitutes the Liberal Party in this House, I can say this with confidence that, having sat in 12 Parliaments of the late King and the present Sovereign, I have never known it to be possessed of a greater quantity of available intellectual capacity and moral readiness to do the work of the country than it is now; nor do I in the slightest degree wish to place it in any invidious comparison with any other quarter of the House. I only leave it for those who are more intimate with other quarters of the House to judge for themselves of the capacity of the present Parliament for work. But, speaking generally, I affirm that there is an immense amount of work which is in arrears, which requires to be done, which the country expects to be done, and which the country will not be satisfied unless it sees done. On the other hand, there are on this side of the House a large number of Members well qualified in every way to take part in the Business of the House who have been absolutely restrained from it and compelled to forego their right and almost to abandon their duty, as it might be called, were there not a higher duty the other way, lest they should bring to an absolute block that progress of Business which has been so lamentably slow. I will take a hypothetical case in illustration. Let me suppose that in some county of Ireland there were happily a discovery of vast mineral wealth where the district was populated very thinly. Let me also suppose that in the neighbouring counties or districts at a certain distance there was a very large surplus population. What should we think there of a state of law and a state of usage which prevented you from bringing that surplus population to work the mineral? Now, I say that all the Business of this House waiting to be done, all the measures that have been so often introduced and so often hopelessly and miserably postponed, are like that ungotten mineral wealth. We want the hand of Parliament to be applied to it—to fashion it, and bring it into the form in which it will be

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available for the wants of the country, even as the ironstone is made into the most valuable of materials and becomes available for human wants. And the state of Procedure has been the barrier which has prevented us from so uniting those labouring and constructive powers that have existed in abundance with the work that waited almost hopelessly to be done. But, Sir, what is the way of making that union? No doubt, the removal of that barrier, so far as it consists of defective Rules of Procedure, we have attempted to effect; but having removed the barrier, we have now to bring the two things into contact. This must, in our opinion, be done by other measures of a different kind—by measures which rest on the principle of the division of labour, by multiplying the organs by which the House applies itself to and discharges its proper work. Well, Sir, is that a fair and proper description of the matter? How is this multiplication of organs to be attained? What are the evils with which we have to deal—the evils that we see before us? The first of them all was wilful and palatable Obstruction offered to the Business of the House in opposition to particular measures, often for their own sake and in order to defeat them. The second was a system of what may be called indirect or subtler Obstruction, which consisted in opposing measure A for the purpose of defeating measure B. The third evil—and it, too, is admitted to have existed in varying degrees—has been excess of speech; and we have got into habits which undoubtedly cause Business to be transacted in a cumbrous manner. The fourth evil has been, as we think and as the House has recognized, that, from various causes, there has been in the use of the Motion for Committee of Supply an invasion of the time at the disposal nominally of the Government, but really of the House, for considering the proposals of the Government—an invasion of that time which has crippled and obstructed the House in the performance of its greatest duty—namely, that of careful examination and criticism of the Government proposals in Supply. These four evils we have all of them in varying degrees endeavoured to meet by the 13 Resolutions that have been already passed. But, Sir, the other evil is this—the great waste of the power of the House

by continually insisting that we should transact on this floor, by means of the whole, that which has special interest only for a part, and that which, experimentally, we know and find has adequate interest only for a part; because much of our time is occupied on measures relating to particular branches, particular services, particular descriptions of the public wants, which require special rather than general knowledge, and which are conducted on the floor of this House, not in the presence of the House at large, but in the presence only of limited portions of the House, who succeed one another in the discussion of those particular measures, but always acting in the name of the House, and on the part of the whole House; and in such a way as to prevent more than one of those measures from being conducted at the same time. Now, Sir, there is no doubt that, in certain cases in great countries, where the Business is far less voluminous than it is here, it has been found necessary to resort to sub-division as the proper mode of economizing the time of a Legislative Assembly. We do not propose to give any excessive application to that principle of sub-division. We propose to confine it to an endeavour to dispose of the stage of Committee of certain Bills upon certain subjects, and to leave to the House its full power over those Bills—nay, to require the House to go through the stages that precede the Committee and those that succeed the Committee, and, of course, to leave to the House its liberty if it think fit itself again to traverse the ground of the Committee, confident as we are that that is a course which it will very seldom be disposed to take. Well, Sir, the division of labour has lain at the root of all that has given, not only increased, but enormously multiplied efficiency to human industry in the field of commerce and of enterprise. It is this division of labour, but within proper and safe limits and well-considered, that we wish the House to try with respect to the great duties which it has to perform. We ask it to appoint two Committees; and we have endeavoured to meet apprehensions and to mitigate them by every security that we could offer to Gentlemen under the influence of those feelings. I do not hesitate to say, Sir, that, as far as I am concerned, I hope the day may come when some

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scheme more highly organized and of wider application than that which we now submit may be adopted by the House; so that every Member of the House, if it be possible, may find increased opportunities, through the medium of such a scheme, for applying himself to the discharge of public duties. For I do not hesitate to say that, in my opinion, one of the very serious evils of the present condition of Business in this House is the enormous restriction and limitation of the opportunities afforded to our junior Members. I do not speak merely of personal hardship on them—that is comparatively a small matter—but we are keeping back and by force preventing from devoting their minds and faculties to the service of the House the younger Members. By the operation of the present system an undue proportion of speaking is placed in the hands of a limited number of Gentlemen, and a large proportion of Members cannot render that service to their country that they otherwise would, because they cannot find their way into the discussion of the Committees, and thus have no opportunity of testing their capacity by taking a reasonable share in the duties of the House. This, I am sure, Sir, is a liberative and not a gagging measure; it is an attempt to give to the House more hands, more arms, and more mouths for the discharge of its Business. The ancient poets used to invoke the Muses and bid them multiply their voices when setting forth upon some great work. We ask the House to multiply its own voices and its own hands, and thus, instead of transacting a limited Business in Committee in such a manner as that only one speciality can be dealt with at a time, enable it to deal with a far larger number. This is a liberating measure, and it is with great disappointment that I learn that certain hon. Members opposite view it with trembling and alarm, and would persuade the House that this is a dangerous measure. Some time ago they declared it a dangerous thing to close the mouth of the House of Commons, and now they declare it a dangerous thing to open it. This is opening the mouth of Parliament. This is affording to the minds of Members of Parliament new scope, new fields of action, new means of expression. ["No, no!"] I am very sorry to hear that dissent from

the noble Lord the Member for Leicestershire (Lord John Manners), because I am bound to say he has, in many junctures in the progress of these Resolutions, shown every disposition for a candid consideration of the matter. But that is the conviction which I venture to submit to the House. I may be asked, how have you endeavoured to spare the susceptibility of the House and the feelings of those who have a great horror of anything novel in Procedure? Well, Sir, we have endeavoured to do it by moderating our demands. We have endeavoured to do it by asking for an experiment, and an experiment alone. We have endeavoured to do it by saying the Resolution which we wish you to pass shall only be a Resolution in force until the close of another year. There are no bugbears here about reducing hon. Members to slavery; there are no horrors, at any rate, in prospect such as those to which we were treated during the debates on the 1st Resolution; and I feel perfectly satisfied with regard to these Resolutions that a brief experiment will afford a fair test, and enable the House to judge whether it ought to go back, whether it ought to stand at the point to which we invite it to go, or whether it ought to go further. When I consider the varied wants of this great Empire and the vast arrears of our legislation, I have in view these two things. First of all, my reference, no doubt, includes those questions upon which we are divided as Parties. Yet the arrears of that kind form a comparatively small portion of the arrears which we now see accumulated almost mountain high; and, Sir, when I consider what this country is, how rapid and constant is its development, how although it is politically and socially old, yet it is full of the energies of youth, full of the self-developing, self-expanding powers of youth, multiplying continually new avenues of exertion, creating continually new demands upon its Legislature and its public authority, I say great is the necessity that you should move in this direction. Nay, more; not only are we becoming now a nation of very large population moving onwards to our 40,000,000, and likely to attain it before the end of the present century, but we are a nation broken up locally also into various divisions, with some degree of various wants and specialities—a circumstance which we are be-

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ginning to recognize in different parts of the country. Specialities of law—most important specialities of law, particularly in the case of Scotland, where they amount to a system of law. Specialities, for example, in the case of Wales, which I do not say constitute in themselves a very formidable fact, but which until now it was not thought fit to admit or recognize, but which we now recognize, and the recognition of which, my knowledge of Wales enables me to say, was accompanied with the utmost benefit, and with the effect of rendering that most loyal people more profoundly attached to the Throne and institutions of the country. It appears to me that it is almost impossible to construct a stronger argument as regards the general principles of these liberating and enlarging Resolutions. I can see nothing in the way except doubts, misgivings, and questionings as to details. This mode of Procedure will be new, and because it is new we ask you to make the experiment for a short time in a safe manner, and only upon those subjects with which the painful considerations of Party cannot be mixed up. In the reform of the law, in measures relating to trade and shipping, we have not seen those embittering and envenoming elements hitherto present; and, consequently, we have selected those two subjects as the subjects upon which this experiment ought to be made. I am not asserting a universal proposition. It is conceivable that upon some question of trade or commerce, or some question of law, there might be important considerations—Imperial considerations—which would make them improper to be referred to these Committees, and proper to be retained within the judgment of the House. Of course, there is the question, what is a Law Bill? Every Bill is a Law Bill in one sense; but still I am now using popular and not scientific language, and I speak of Law Bills as a class. And in the same way with regard to Trade Bills. I may be told that the Corn Law Bill was a trade measure, and that it was a measure that could be thus referred; but my reply is, that happily

your Lordships have not allowed that to happen. I do not account at all for the fact that they are not possible.

Trade Bill should some day or other come to be a formidable question between classes and between sides of this House, the House will retain its power, and be in a condition to make an exception for such a Bill. Questions of detail may be asked. My hon. Friend the Member for Oxford University (Mr. J. G. Talbot) asked what was to be the quorum of these Committees. This problem, however formidable, I think the intellectual capacity of the House will be found equal to. Even at a venture, one may say, if these Committees are to run from 60 to 80 Members, that the mere suggestion of a quorum of 20 cannot have anything in it very fatal. Another question we have thought so important that we have proposed to provide for it by a Resolution, and that is the appointment of the Chairmen of these Committees. It is quite clear to us that the appointment of Chairmen is a matter too considerably important to be left altogether to the Committee itself. I believe it ought to be retained in the discretion and authority of the House, and we have proposed a method by which it may be so retained. There were two methods by which it might have been done. It might have been done by appointing, by the direct vote of the House, the Chairman for such and such a Standing Committee. The reason why we have not adopted that method was because we felt that if it were adopted it might possibly be thought that there was a latent intention to bring the influence of Government to bear on the majority of the House for the purpose of determining the choice of the Chairman. In order to avoid any such suspicion, which we felt would be a very mischievous suspicion, and would threaten the well-working of the plan, we have proposed a plan which will place out of the reach of the majority, but under the control of a body whom the House can trust, the determination of the question who shall be Chairman of a Committee for the time upon one or another particular Bill. Then there is the question of the time when these Committees shall meet. It is a question which may be open to consideration and debate if we ever come to any large or full development of the system; but I apprehend there can be no doubt that if Committees of this kind are to meet experimentally, they

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will meet very much in the hours in which Select and Private Committees meet now. As to the place where they will meet, I am given to understand that although it might be a serious question if we were now attempting to constitute a complete system, yet as regards either one or even two Committees, there would be no practical difficulty with apartments that we have already at our hand. Then, with respect to the procedure of these Committees, these Committees will have a law of procedure ready made to their hand. I am not aware that there is any essential particular in which it will be requisite that they should deviate from the law of procedure now in force in Select Committees. It may be convenient—in fact, it would almost follow from the numbers in which they would probably meet—that their debates, their discussions, would be less interlocutory and conversational, and would more nearly approximate to the character of regular discussion, and, if so, very probably speeches might be delivered as they are in this House; but, certainly, if any of us are tempted by evil habits, or evil attractions, to excess in speeches we may make, I think the House will perceive there will be very little of that attraction in these Committees. The Press of the country, it is very important to recollect, does not give that attention to our debates now which it used to give to them 40 or 50 or 60 years ago, and still less could it be a matter of universal interest to the public to have the proceedings of these Committees largely reported. If there be a danger in the temptation to celebrity acquired through that medium, such a danger would be either removed or brought to its minimum under a measure of this kind. And, Sir, one advantage which I believe will result from the adoption of this proposal I cannot refrain from pointing out. We all of us know that one of the most subtle and dangerous mischiefs we have now to deal with is what I have called indirect or subaltern Obstruction—Obstruction not meant for a measure on which it may take place, but for some other which the Obstruction blocks out. That temptation will, within the sphere of these Committees, be absolutely removed. It is true we have attempted to apply a cure to it; it is true that the

vigilance of the Chairman will in extreme cases be able to apply a cure; but the action of this form of Obstruction is by far too subtle to allow anything like immediate or universal detection, and as long as temptation to this subaltern Obstruction continued, the evil itself could not be got rid of. A merely coercive measure against it could not possibly get rid of it. It might often happen under our present system that some necessary measure relating to trade or shipping or of law reform might be debated at inordinate length to prevent a particular measure coming on. Let us arrive at a system, or approach as nearly as possible at a system, under which a measure shall stand—if I may use a homely expression—upon its own legs, and shall not be liable to be thrust out of debate, by means which its opponents may possess of working indirectly and underground, some other measure for the purpose of excluding it. I think I have said as much as is necessary to explain the general view with which this measure is proposed. Having said that it is proposed experimentally, I hope I need not do more than add in very simple terms that it is experimentally proposed in good faith. The question of how far it may be susceptible of future development, as I believe, to the immense comfort and advantage of all sides of the House, is, I admit, a question that is still lying in the regions of conjecture and speculation—*solvitur ambulando*. A complaint of this kind must be tested by experience. It would be idle, it would be wrong, to say that we had in our minds some great scheme into which this very modest, very humble proposal is to extend. That is intended to enable you to test the measure, to enable you, by making one forward step, to form a safe and a clear judgment whether you shall take another forward step; but I do not hesitate to say that if I may assume a favourable result which I desire to put to the proof of experience, I cannot but contemplate with the utmost joy the fruits that will ultimately proceed from it—greater satisfaction given to all wants, both local and Imperial; the attention of this House as a whole concentrated more worthily and systematically upon the greater subjects; the younger Members of the House, as I have said, not shut

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out from the first fair opportunities of manifesting their capacity to serve their country; a greater amount of work, as I hope, if we succeed in this experiment, and are encouraged to continue them, done for the advantage of the country, and to meet its necessities; and, finally, I am not ashamed to say, especially as I have no practical interest in it myself, a considerable relief for the Members of Parliament for the future from the enormous physical labours which they have been called upon to endure in recent times. These are the great fruits and advantages which I think it right to present to you. I do not attempt to dwell on the future; but I think I have said enough to show that this modest experiment which we propose, and which we look upon as the best and healthiest part of the whole of our scheme with regard to Parliamentary Procedure, because it is a liberating, and not a restraining part—that this experiment—an experiment which, as we firmly believe it, shall be successful—will ultimately develop itself into a most profoundly valuable National institution. The right hon. Gentleman then moved the first Resolution relating to Standing Committees.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

“That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may be committed to them respectively.”—(*Mr. Gladstone.*)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS rose to move the omission from the Resolution of all but the word “That.”

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL, rising to Order, said this would shut out an Amendment which he had given Notice of some time ago. He wished to know whether his Amendment should not take precedence?

MR. SPEAKER said, that the right hon. Baronet (Sir R. Assheton Cross) proposed to leave out all the words after “That,” and to insert other words. In putting the Question, he would be bound to put it in the form, “That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,” and if that was agreed to no further Amendment could be put. He had no alternative but to call upon the right hon. Baronet.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, if the hon. Member for Waterford (Mr.

Blake) had been in his place during the speech of the Prime Minister he would not have been surprised at the Prime Minister's refusal to receive a deputation on a subject of great importance; because the importance of the present subject had been increased by the speech they had now heard, and it was evident that the House was entering on a totally new question in a large and wide spirit. He hoped that all those Members who had been only a very short time in Parliament, and who only came in at the last Election, would excuse him, if he reminded them that during the present Parliament the House of Commons had never been in proper working order. It had always been working under Rules of Urgency and under the pressure of circumstances which prevented it from making proper use of its time. He hoped hon. Members would also bear in mind that in discussing this question they were not discussing a Party question at all. It was simply a question of how the Business of the country was to be got through, and how it was to be best done; and, therefore, he was glad to hear from the Prime Minister that the House was to be free to enter on its discussion without being subjected to any pressure as to the decision at which it should arrive. The Prime Minister had admitted very frankly that he did not approach this question with anything like the confidence with which he had approached the other proposals in regard to the Business of the House.

MR. GLADSTONE: I beg pardon. I approach the experiment with confidence.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: Well, the Prime Minister did not evidently approach it with the same certainty of success; for while they did not hear of any of the other proposals being introduced as an experiment, he startled them by saying that this scheme was to be purely experimental, and he could not guarantee how it would answer or succeed. The Prime Minister had said that the House had suffered from—first, wilful and palpable Obstruction; secondly, indirect and subaltern Obstruction; thirdly, excessive speech; and, fourthly, taking up the Government time by Motions on going into Committee of Supply. Those were the four causes which had prevented Parliament from doing its work. The Prime

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Minister had said that the House had already, to a great extent, met these cases by the penal and restrictive Resolutions which had been passed. That was so, and if those Resolutions were really carried out, as the Prime Minister believed they would be—there were some of them to which he objected, but he was not dealing with objections then—the right hon. Gentleman had great hopes that the elasticity of the old House of Commons would re-appear, and practical legislation would be carried into effect. He did not suppose that the Prime Minister would suggest that under the old Parliaments legislation did not go on well, rapidly, and effectively, or that the right hon. Gentleman would have ventured to make the complaints which he had made of the Parliament of 1868 or of an earlier period. It was because the House had suffered from those four distinct characteristic forms of Obstruction that it was crippled and paralyzed and unable to do that work which it would otherwise be well able to do under good guidance. The Prime Minister was not content with those penal and restrictive Resolutions, but said—"I must also give you a liberating and enlarging measure by which this House will be enabled to pass more measures." The right hon. Gentleman said there were men anxious and willing to work, and that there was a great deal of work waiting to be done. He objected to the statement that there were such men on the Liberal side only. ["No, no!"] Yet the Prime Minister had said that he would only answer for the Liberal side of the House. He should have thought, from the proceedings of the last two or three years, that there was a large number of men on both sides of the House well able to do such work; but, apart from that, the right hon. Gentleman asked what they were going to do. Practically, what the right hon. Gentleman said was that they wanted more Parliaments than one. One Parliament was not enough, and, therefore, they must break Parliament up into a number of *bureaux*. Now, that was a very curious question. The right hon. Gentleman said that the public expected work to be done. But it ought to be remembered also that the public expected work to be done well, and it was much better that the work should wait for some time than that it should not

be done well. But there was another matter which ought to be borne in mind, and that was that pressing matters often came suddenly before the House and prevented it from doing its work in the ordinary course. In 1868, and following years, a great deal of time had been taken up by measures of the Prime Minister's own, relating to the Irish Land Question, the Irish Church, and Irish Education. In the Parliament of 1874 there was a great complication of foreign affairs; and in the present Parliament there was the pressure of Irish Business, which had prevented the House from taking up legislation which would otherwise have been introduced. Did the right hon. Gentleman suppose that if, during the periods he had mentioned, Parliament had been broken up by those Committees sitting upstairs, he would have been able to pass those great measures? [Mr. GLADSTONE: Yes.] Well, he disagreed with the right hon. Gentleman. He thought the right hon. Gentleman would have found it impossible to do anything of the kind. The present House of Commons had been spoken of as the best ever elected, and it appeared to him the most extraordinary suggestion he had ever heard to cripple and break that Parliament up into little Parliaments. It was true that, as a matter of favour, the right hon. Gentleman held it out to them that the House might discuss the second reading of the Bills which were to be referred to those Committees. The Bills would again be discussed on the Report and on the third reading. No Bills ought to pass that House without adequate discussion, and to break the House up into *bureaux* was foreign to our system, and recommended by no authority except one of the Clerks of the House. [Mr. GLADSTONE: Three Speakers.] Those Speakers had expressed modified and guarded opinions which the right hon. Gentleman had magnified and brought forward as authority for the propositions which he had made. But the right hon. Gentleman had shadowed forth proposals which ought to make this House even more anxious. Not only were there various measures which were to be referred to those Committees, but there were various classes of persons in the Kingdom especially interested in each subject, and able, therefore, to give especial atten-

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tion to it in those Committees. He had shadowed out that there were questions relating specially to Scotland, that loyal Kingdom, which would become even more loyal if it were allowed to discuss its affairs upstairs——

MR. GLADSTONE: I did not say that. I never used such an expression, or intimated such an idea, that Scotland should be allowed to discuss its affairs by itself.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the Prime Minister stated that there were measures relating to Scotland which might specially be discussed in one of these Committees; and even Wales was raked up in order to show that different Nationalities had different special questions to be discussed in these Grand Committees. What was the natural result? What was the natural inference to be drawn? It was, that if these Committees were once set up, Scotch and Irish measures would then be relegated to a Committee specially composed of Scotch and Irish Members; and so even with Wales. Without entering upon the advisability of such a course, he would say that the House was entering upon a novel experiment, of which it knew nothing, and that it was proposed to break the House up in *bureaux*, and even into nations. They were departing from the immemorial custom of the House in forming Committees, which custom had always been to represent on Committees both sides of the House, giving only a majority of one to the Government. The Prime Minister was attempting to do that which he had attempted in 1868 unsuccessfully—to alter the constitution of Committees of that House. In 1868 the Prime Minister had tried to make the constitution of Committees correspond with the proportion existing in the House between the two great Parties. Now he was attempting to introduce a similar principle. In Irish Business regard would have to be had to Irish Members, and in Scotch Business to Scotch Members. They were entering upon a new and dangerous course. He did not think the House would adopt that principle without severe criticism. The result would be to transfer the debate from the Committee stage to the Report. Debates would take place with the Speaker in the Chair which would otherwise have been carried on in Committee. The House would never abandon its func-

tions, and debates, instead of being shortened, would be longer than heretofore. The Prime Minister proposed that these Committees should be confined to law, commerce, and trade. He was quite wrong in saying that political questions could not come up in Committees on these subjects. One of the gravest political questions ever fought in that House was the Navigation Laws, and they might have in the future serious discussions as to the Criminal Law in Ireland. But he (Sir R. Assheton Cross) would assume that it was a *bonâ fide* Bill, the details of which it was desirable to thrash out in Committee. He would take the case of the Settled Land Bill. [Mr. GLADSTONE was understood to say that was not a Bill of the class referred to.] It was essentially a Law Bill, and he rather suspected that the Prime Minister had never read it, which it would be very desirable that both he and his Friends should do before making speeches on the Land Question. But if they referred that Bill to a Grand Committee they would never have had the same constant attendance, the same careful attention which they had in the small Select Committee to which that Bill was referred. In a Grand Committee principles would have been settled by Members who had not heard the arguments coming in and voting, and the Bill would not have passed without serious alteration in the House. Then, take the Bankruptcy Bill. They would probably have two or three Bills sent to the Committee; but the Committee must take one Bill and proceed upon it, and the Members whose Bills had been laid aside would be constantly trying to thwart the other Members of the Committee. What was really wanted was to send Bills to Committees which would thrash them out in all their details; and he was persuaded that smaller Committees, such as were at present in vogue, were calculated to do the work more efficiently than Grand Committees. These Grand Committees were too large to thoroughly sift out the details, and they were far too small to carry the principle of a Bill in a way that the House would accept. The Resolution appeared to him to make a mixture and a bungle; it was neither one thing nor another—neither fish, flesh, nor fowl. Principles were not confined to second readings; the principle often lay in these complicated Bills in a clause,

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and, according to the proposal, they had not a Committee large enough to carry weight with the House, or small enough to insure the details being thoroughly sifted. And then, again, respecting the attendance of Members. They must have the traders and lawyers on these Committees, and, he presumed, the hours would be the same as for ordinary Committees; but how were the traders and lawyers to attend at these times?

MR. GLADSTONE: The Settled Land Bill.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, that that was the strongest illustration for his point, because he believed, when he himself practised at the Bar, that lawyers were excused from ordinary Committees on the understanding that upon any special Bill requiring the attendance of lawyers they were bound to attend. This, however, was going to be altered. They were to have a Standing Committee, to which the Law Bills of all Billmongers—if he might use the expression without disrespect—were to be submitted; and a similar thing would happen in the case of the merchants—

MR. GLADSTONE: There will be the second reading.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he was aware of that; but, of course, every Bill relating to Law, the Courts of Justice, Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, that had been read a second time would go to one of these Standing Committees. The Government, however, would get neither their lawyers nor their merchants. They expected 80 Members on each Committee—that was 160 in all—a good slice out of the House; and what, he asked, was to become, then, of Private Bill and ordinary Committees? Where were they to get their men? They had not an inexhaustible supply. One of the arguments of the right hon. Gentleman was that his proposal would give to the younger Members opportunities which were now denied them; that the junior Members of that House would take part in those Committees, and rise by degrees to be Chairmen of Grand Committees. He did not agree with that statement. The Select Committees under the present system afforded admirable opportunities for young Members to distinguish themselves—better opportunities than existed anywhere

else in the world. So far as his general objections to these Committees went, he was content to let the case rest here. Without going into all the arguments, he believed he had said enough to show the gravity of the proposition which was made by the Government. It was a grave and serious matter—it was a matter wholly new; it had never been debated in that House. The House had sat for five weeks in an Autumn Session—had sat an almost unprecedented time during the year, and at the end of that period was called upon, when the House was growing rapidly thinner and thinner, to discuss one of the most important changes in its Procedure which had ever been brought forward for its acceptance. The House was now asked to accept this innovation—that the Resolution was to be passed only as a Standing Order for the Session. If they were to have an experiment at all, he thought it ought to be in a different direction. He should prefer one Committee instead of two. He could never understand why that very pressing measure, the Bankruptcy Bill, had not been read a second time and referred to a Select Committee, and that step might be taken next year, in order to see what would be the result. The Prime Minister could, if he pleased, when the Bill came back from the Select Committee, propose to negative the stage of Committee of the Whole House, which was frequently done in the Upper House. He thought he had given sufficient reasons, at any rate, why, at the present time, and with these empty Benches, they should not enter on this important question. The right hon. Gentleman concluded by moving his Amendment.

Amendment proposed,

To leave out from the word "That," to the end of the Question, in order to insert the words—"it is not expedient to consider the matter of the proposed Resolution at this period of the Session."—(*Sir Richard Cross.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'two' stand part of the Question."

MR. NORWOOD said, he was sure that everyone would agree with the Government that these Standing Committees should only be experimental and continue to the end of the Session. The change now proposed to be made was one of the greatest importance. It had been stated by the right hon. Gentle-

Sir R. Assheton Cross

man that it would be desirable to leave the details of important Bills to be settled by a Committee of experts. That was a principle which he thought was likely to be productive of much evil. He could not believe that it would be wise, for instance, to leave questions of legal procedure to be settled by a Committee, the great majority of which was composed of lawyers. Lawyers were not likely men to initiate or carry out any large scheme of Law Reform. Then, as to Merchant Shipping, he could conceive nothing more mischievous than to leave such a Bill entirely in the hands of the shipping interest. The great safeguard of that House and the country was that there was always present, or might be present in Committee of the Whole House, a large number of Gentlemen of sound common sense, who were not interested, either themselves or through their constituents, in the immediate matter under discussion, and who would keep in check any personal influence or feeling which might be entertained by the expert Members of the Committee. There were many details of this proposal which had not been explained, and which ought to be discussed at the present stage. He wanted to know how Bills were to be distinguished. It was proposed to have two Grand Committees, one for Bills relating to law and Courts of Justice, and the other to trade and commerce. Let them take the subject of bankruptcy. Was that a question of law or of trade and commerce? It might be said it was mercantile; but he should not like to see a Bankruptcy Bill passed through that House which had not received the advantage of the wide experience possessed by legal Gentlemen. There was another Bill which had been brought before them—a Bill to consolidate the Law of Partnership. Was not that a measure which it was almost impossible to hand over entirely to one or other of these Committees? There was another difficulty in connection with Standing Committees. At present every Member had an opportunity of discussing the details of the measures brought forward, and of enunciating the views of their constituents. Great interest was now taken by the large mercantile and agricultural constituencies in the legislation affecting them, and a large number of Chambers of Commerce and Agriculture existed throughout the country for that

purpose. If questions affecting them were transferred to Standing Committees two-thirds of the Representatives of such constituencies would be disfranchised and unable to fulfil the mandate of their constituents. It might be said that the House could discuss these Bills on Report; but he very much doubted if the House would be willing to open technical subjects again which had once been settled in Committee. It was a question of great importance at what time these Committees would sit. If they sat in the daytime he could see the greatest difficulty in obtaining the attendance of lawyers from day to day, and it was impossible to expect that bankers and others engaged in the City of London could spare the time; and those were the very men it was desirable to have on Grand Committees. If, on the other hand, these Committees were to sit contemporaneously with the House, most important questions might be settled in the latter when the Members of the Committees who were not present could not vote, and thus many constituencies would suffer disfranchisement with respect to certain questions. He feared, also, that a species of Home Rule would be encouraged by the existence of these Committees; and he protested against the proposals already made for handing over to Scotch Members all legislation affecting Scotland, to Irish Members legislation affecting Ireland, and to Welsh Members legislation affecting Wales. The mode in which Chairmen of Grand Committees were to be appointed was remarkable; the House would have no voice in their election. Another danger was the possibility that these Committees might sometimes subvert the principle of a Bill, and there appeared to be no provision against that evil. What he wished to lay greatest stress on was the extreme danger that important mercantile constituencies might on many occasions practically be disfranchised by this proposal. If in the Committees there were not to be more than 60 or 80 Members, town after town would be unable to take part, through its Representatives, in modelling the form of a Bill. He thought the great advantage of the present system was that particular interests could not succeed in any large question. This was specially ensured by the constitution of Select Committees on Private Bills. Railway Bills were

not committed to railway experts, but to disinterested persons to protect public interests. He should be very glad if some statement was made answering the various points which he had brought forward, and satisfy him that the proposed innovation would be a sound, wise, and Constitutional one.

SIR HENRY HOLLAND said, that the immediate question before the House was whether this suggested alteration of their present mode of Procedure was not of such importance that it ought not to be discussed and settled now in a very thin House at the end of an Autumn Session? Now, he thought the Prime Minister had shown how very important this question was, for what had he said? He had held out a promise, or threat, as Members on that side of the House would be inclined to consider it, that if this limited change of Procedure were to prove successful, it would lead to a wider scheme and larger organization; in other words, it would lead to a revolution in the Business of the House. This showed the vast importance of the present proposals, and showed that it was unfair and improper that it should be settled at this period of the Session. He would, with the permission of the House, state why he was opposed to these Grand Committees. He was an advocate for Select, or what were called Hybrid Committees, as against these Grand Committees. The Prime Minister, in his eloquent and interesting speech, had pointed out how there was work to be done on one side of a barrier, and workmen ready to do the work on another; and he proposed to level this barrier by Grand Committees. But the work could be brought to the workmen as well, if not better, by Select Committees, and without any great change such as that now proposed. The Prime Minister had pointed out some four or five evils arising out of the present system. But he (Sir Henry Holland) was quite unable to see how these evils would be specially remedied by the present proposals. Take, for instance, the third evil which was pointed out—namely, the excess of speech. He did not dispute the existence of the evil; he did not dispute that Members would get up and reiterate arguments that had been fully laid before the House; but would not this excess of speech be indulged in on these Grand Committees, and on the Reports of these Committees to the House? In

truth, there would be far more discussion upon the Reports of these Grand Committees than on Reports of carefully selected small Committees, as their Reports would not, he believed, carry so much weight with the House as the Reports of such Select Committees. Take, again, the fourth evil referred to by the Prime Minister—namely, the present invasion of the time required for a critical examination of a measure. But that kind of examination was secured by Select Committees; and it was, to say the least of it, doubtful whether such examination would be secured on Grand Committees, for the reasons pointed out so forcibly by the hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Norwood). Again, the Prime Minister complained of the waste of the time of the House in discussing in the House details of measures which only interested part of the House. This objection would be entirely removed by referring more measures to Select Committees; but he ventured to support what had been said by the hon. Member for Hull, that there was considerable danger in referring the details of measures only to persons specially interested in them. It would be very undesirable to refer legal measures to Grand Committees mainly composed of lawyers. Such measures materially affected merchants, traders, bankers, and commercial men generally, who should have full opportunity for discussing them; and the same observation applied to other Bills which would come under the terms of the Resolution. It would be very dangerous to refer certain classes of Bills to Grand Committees, and thus practically to deprive the House of the power of dealing with them in Committee, because they only interested a part of the House. Again, the Prime Minister urged that under the present system younger Members were kept out of work, and had their mouths shut. But why should this be so, if Bills were more generally referred to Select Committees, as he (Sir Henry Holland) ventured to advocate? A young Member, acting as one of 10 to 20 Members on a Select Committee, would learn far more useful work, and have far better opportunities of speaking, and doing real work, than if he were one of a Grand Committee of 60 to 80 Members. The Prime Minister deprecated discussion on matters of detail in the working out of this Resolution; and, so far as the appointment of Chairmen and

Mr. Norwood

the number of the quorum were concerned, he (Sir Henry Holland) did not suppose there would be much difficulty. But some matters of detail were of great importance, and showed the impracticability of the scheme. Take, for example, the question of the time when these Committees were to sit. It would be impossible for lawyers and merchants and men in business to attend regularly *de die in diem* upon them. They could make arrangements, though not without difficulty, to attend at present on Select Committees, sitting two days a-week and for a comparatively short time, but they could not attend day by day on these Grand Committees; and the consequence would be that the measures would be left in the hands of those who were not so busy and not so materially interested in the matter under consideration. Another point of detail, but a very important one, was, that it would be exceedingly difficult to provide attendance on Private Bill Business. Everyone knew that it was difficult enough now to secure such attendance; but deplete the House of working Members by employing some 160 to 200 Members on these Grand Committees, and it would be found most difficult to provide Chairmen and Members for Private Bills and Select Committees on other subjects than those to be referred to the Grand Committees. The Prime Minister said that he believed one special class of Obstruction—namely, the inordinate talking on one Bill with a view to prevent discussion upon some other measure, would be stopped by the establishment of Grand Committees. But would this be the case? Assume that two Bills on law or trade were referred to one Grand Committee, why should not Members, if so inclined, obstruct the discussion of one of those measures by talking at great length on the other? Obstruction would only be removed from the Committee of the House to the Grand Committees, and the Business of the country would be equally delayed. For these reasons he should support the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman (Sir R. Assheton Cross), as the question was far too important to be discussed at this time of the year.

MR. GREGORY said, that the question was whether this proposal of the Government was calculated to facilitate Business. He admitted that the present practice was by no means free from ob-

jection. Suppose a Bill of a somewhat difficult and technical character was proposed, and Members practically acquainted with the subject discussed it in Committee and proposed Amendments, they were liable to be overruled by Gentlemen flocking in from the Library or the Smoking Room who had not heard a word of the arguments. Another evil attendant upon Committees of the Whole House was the power of raising Amendments without Notice. They had Gentlemen continually getting up and proposing Amendments which they themselves hardly considered, and which it was impossible for the House to consider on the spur of the moment. He had some experience in preparing legal documents, and he was sure that no man having a practical acquaintance with the subject would adopt Amendments proposed at a moment's notice in such a manner; but, nevertheless, these were matters which might be dealt with without making that great change which was contemplated by this proposal. It was proposed that they should have two Grand Committees, one dealing with Bills relating to law, the other with Bills affecting commerce, trade, or manufactures. He ventured to say that it was impossible to separate the two things, for law and trade went together. They were *pari materid*. It would be most unsatisfactory to have Bills connected with legal procedure, measures relating to bankruptcy or partnership, properly considered by lawyers without the assistance of Gentlemen like his hon. Friend the Member for Hull (Mr. Norwood), who had practical acquaintance with the subject. Then the work of the Grand Committees might become distasteful to Members selected to act upon them. They might absent themselves, and what weight could then be attached to the labours of the Committee? Again, it seemed to him that the Government proposal was unworkable, as so many interests were connected with one another that it was impossible to touch one without affecting all; a consideration which would always be present in the mind of the House when it reviewed the work of a Standing Committee, and would detract from the value of the work done. At any rate, the Resolution was so surrounded with difficulties of the most practical character that it ought not to be passed without more consideration than it had as yet received.

He admitted the defects of the present system of considering all Bills in Committee of the Whole House, and should prefer some modification of the system of Select Committees, which, he had always thought, worked extremely well, especially when, as in the case of the Settled Land Bill and the Elementary Education Bill, the Committee had the assistance of the draftsman of the measure. That system was capable of great extension, and it would be well, in his opinion, to refer all Bills of a technical character to Select Committees chosen, if not by the Committee of Selection, at least without regard to Party politics. They might be open Committees, the public being admitted to their deliberations, and might take two or three Bills at a time, their decisions as to which should be subject to the approval of the House. That, he thought, was a practical and prudent suggestion, and would compare favourably with the extreme and unworkable proposal of the Government.

MR. E. STANHOPE said, he was glad to have reached the discussion of Resolutions which involved no Party considerations; but that, he noticed with much regret, did not seem to be the sentiment of hon. Gentlemen opposite. The truth was that they were afraid to speak in the presence of the Prime Minister. With only one exception, none of them had spoken on this subject, though everyone would wish to improve the Procedure of the House, and everyone could bring his experience to bear on the point at issue. Judging from the speech of the Prime Minister, he should have supposed that the acceptance of the Resolution would insure some vast result, such as the attainment of the Millennium; and yet, having listened carefully to the right hon. Gentleman, he found in his speech no indication of the way in which that consummation was to be brought about. The right hon. Gentleman said that the Resolution had excited much alarm; but the hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Norwood) had given unanswerable reasons for the apprehension that was felt. Several simple considerations showed the unworkable character of the Resolution. The first proposition he would venture to put before the House was the question, Why the House met at 4 o'clock in the afternoon? It had been proposed that the House should meet at 2 o'clock and adjourn at an earlier hour; but that

proposition had not been accepted, because many Members of the House were engaged in commercial pursuits or in the Legal Profession, and found it impossible to get down to the House before 4 o'clock, and the House, wishing to avail itself of the experience and knowledge of those hon. Members, had agreed to meet at 4 o'clock for their convenience. It, however, appeared to him that in the future the House was going to discuss special legal and commercial matters at a time when it would not be convenient for hon. Members interested in those subjects to attend the House. That was a proposition which no one could dispute, and it was astonishing that anyone not possessed of the simple and childlike faith of the Prime Minister should imagine that the mere passing of the Resolution would bring business men down to the House at impossible times. Again, there was a certain amount of difficulty and danger to be provided against in the constitution of these Grand Committees. He would take the case of a Bill affecting railways or merchant shipping, in which many Members of the House were interested. In the case of a Merchant Shipping Bill, the numerous Members representing the mercantile ports of the Kingdom would, he supposed, be nominated to the Committee; and, if that were done, they would naturally mould the Bill in accordance with the special interests and objects of their constituents. When the Bill came back to the House so moulded as to suit the special requirements of those who represented the shipping interest, more time would be spent in putting back some of the original proposals than would have been bestowed on the measure if it had remained in the House altogether. If, on the other hand, none of the shipping Members, or only a small number of them, were put on the Committee, they would all claim to speak on the Bill when it came back to the House, and would urge that if they were not heard on the subject their constituencies would be practically disfranchised. The hon. Member for East Sussex (Mr. Gregory) had truly observed that it was especially desirable to make progress with Consolidation Bills. Under the existing system, when such Bills had been considered by a Select Committee, they were readily accepted by the House, because it was known that the Committee had thoroughly thrashed

Mr. Gregory

out all the details. Now, however, it was proposed to deal with such measures in a totally novel way, and he did not think that their passage through the House would be thereby facilitated. Hon. Members, it should be borne in mind, would be compelled to serve on these Grand Committees. It was true, indeed, that the remedy was in their own hands, and that they could refuse to attend; and this was very much, he feared, what would occur. A large number of Members would be put on the Grand Committee for the Session who would not care anything for half the Bills sent for their consideration, and, consequently, they would not attend. The House, he thought, would not repose so much confidence in the Report of such a Committee as they did now in the recommendations of a Committee appointed by themselves for the purpose of considering a particular Bill. He did not view this proposal with alarm; but he entertained a somewhat strong opinion as to its absurdity. He trusted that the House would see the desirability of postponing the consideration of proposals which would be practically useless and which might be mischievous.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, he agreed with the last speaker that it was rather a strong proceeding to ask the House to construct a new system of Procedure at this period of the Session. Until the Prime Minister delivered his speech he had cherished the hope that the Government would, at the last moment, have rested content with the great results they had already achieved in regard to Procedure, and that hon. Members would be allowed to go to their homes after so large a slice had been taken out of the too brief Autumn Holidays of Members of Parliament. The Prime Minister appeared to be under the influence of one controlling idea—namely, that there was an enormous mass of work before the House, that was almost immeasurable in its proportions, and that must be got through. For his own part, he had never been able to detect, either in the constituencies or in the House itself, where all these Alpine ranges of legislative work were to come from. The Prime Minister did not enter into any details. He knew that some years ago the right hon. Gentleman contributed to *The Nineteenth Century* an article, in which he enumerated 29 principal measures which he said

Parliament ought to legislate upon; but the existing Procedure of the House would amply suffice to pass even those 29 important measures. He believed that the ex-Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Mr. John Bright) would, if he were to speak his real mind on this question, sweep away with utter scorn this brand new method of Procedure, for he must remember the enormous reforms which had been carried under the present system, in the teeth of the most violent opposition. In proposing this scheme, the Prime Minister had neglected the great laws of supply and demand, as he had also done in the Irish Land Act. If the country really demanded legislation, the present Procedure of the House would be amply sufficient to dispose of all grievances; but, in fact, no grievances of any importance existed in the country, and, consequently, there was apathy and disregard and carelessness in regard to legislation. This entirely disposed of the right hon. Gentleman's argument in regard to the enormous mass of work that lay before Parliament. Then the Prime Minister said he was anxious, by means of these Grand Committees, to avoid the intolerable overworking of Members. But this scheme of Grand Committees was a most extraordinary plan for lightening their labours. Suppose the system of Grand Committees had been in operation when the Land Law of Ireland was under discussion. A Grand Committee of 80 Members might have been considering the Bankruptcy Bill, the Corrupt Practices Bill, or the Ballot Act; they would have been engaged on those measures probably from 12 till 4. Then the other Grand Committee of 80 Members might have been considering some of the 20 Bills mentioned by the President of the Board of Trade. Thus 160 Members would have been engaged from 12 to 4 three times a-week perhaps, and would have been utterly unable to take part in the discussion of the Land Law (Ireland) Bill, although that was one of the most important measures that ever divided political Parties in the House of Commons. Yet this was the system that the Prime Minister said was to lighten the labours of hon. Members. Those 160 Members would scarcely be able to take even the ridiculous part of walking through the Division Lobbies. If the Grand Committees were carried and the Govern-

[Thirtieth Night.]

ment introduced a Bill dealing with the county franchise and the redistribution of seats, which would interest the whole House, and would be more hotly contested than any measure since the Reform Bill, how would it be possible for the Members sitting on the Grand Committees dealing with law and commerce also to devote themselves to the discussion of the franchise question? To take small Committees of 15 was a very different thing to taking one-third of the House. It stood to reason that instead of relieving Members from over work it was reducing them to slavery. The Prime Minister had supported this proposal on the ground that it would release Members from a great deal of physical labour. The right hon. Gentleman indulged in metaphor, and said that it was a great attempt on the part of the Government to give the House of Commons more mouths, more arms, and more hands; but, considering the running about from one place to another that hon. Members would have to do if this system were adopted, he might just as well have said, "More legs." It was a most unfortunate metaphor to make use of "more mouths, more arms, more hands, more legs," just as if the Prime Minister wanted to transform the House of Commons from a National Constitutional Assembly into some formidable and horrid monster. He could imagine the House with its capacious maw wide open and the Caucus shovelling in a great mass of Bills, and the House endeavouring to discuss this mass of work, with the result of producing a noxious, horrid result of legislative indigestion. The Prime Minister based this proposal on the specialities of localities and the growth of population; but had not specialities of localities existed ever since the Heptarchy? Divesting the Prime Minister's speech of hyperbole, it came to this—that they must have Grand Committees, because the British Islands were composed of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, and that the four countries differed from one another. Up to the present time, however, the House of Commons had legislated for all four divisions of the British Islands, and there was no reason to doubt had done so satisfactorily. In introducing the Irish Church Act, the right hon. Gentleman said that there was a great crisis, and he was taunted with not having discovered it before.

Lord Randolph Churchill

Up to the present time he had never discovered that the specialities of localities constituted such a difference between England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales as to require this enormous change. The Prime Minister had also said that he was anxious to make things as easy as possible for the Opposition, and that he had carefully eliminated all Party questions from those to be referred to the Grand Committees. But to say that law was a subject in which Party questions would not arise was, he thought, to make one of the boldest assertions ever made even by the Prime Minister. Questions of law raised more violent Party disputes than any subject which could be named. What could give rise to more bitter Party disputes than the law affecting land? Did the Prime Minister propose to submit the law relating to land to the Grand Committee? [Mr. GLADSTONE: No.] Did he intend to submit the Law of Primogeniture? [Mr. GLADSTONE: No.] Did he intend to refer the Corrupt Practices Bill? [Mr. GLADSTONE: No.] Then he did not know what he intended to refer, except the Bankruptcy Bill, or, perhaps, the Marriage Laws, or the Law of Divorce, in reference to which the Prime Minister knew something about the powers of Obstruction. But the great word "law" covered a very vast field. He ventured to differ also from the Prime Minister in the opinion that disputes with regard to trade and commercial questions were settled. They had been allowed to sleep for a quarter of a century; but there were indications that they were reviving. And he apprehended that matters affecting these questions would be found ere long to possess a very considerable Party interest. The Prime Minister had said a good deal about time and place of meeting, and also about Procedure; but he had not said a word about the most vital point—namely, the election of these grand old Committees. [*Laughter.*] He begged pardon; the election of the Grand Committees which it was proposed to form under the New Rules. Not one word did he say about the proposal to refer the selection to the Standing Committee on Selection. What was the Committee of Selection? It consisted of Sir John Mowbray, Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Orr-Ewing, Mr. Whitbread, Sir Charles Forster, and Mr. Mitchell Henry. Those Gentlemen were the nominees of the

Whips of either Party, with the exception of the Whip of the Irish Party. Did the Prime Minister suppose that the independent Members of the House of Commons would acquiesce in the proposal to place the selection of these Grand Committees in the hands of those Gentlemen? It was a most preposterous proposition. Would the Members following the lead of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) acquiesce in the selections of the hon. Member for Galway (Mr. Mitchell Henry), or those following the standard of the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) the selections of the hon. Baronet the Member for Walsall (Sir Charles Forster)? The Prime Minister appeared to see with prophetic eye a perfect cataract of legislation, almost equal in volume to the Falls of Niagara, which was to be poured down upon this country through the operation of that scheme; but if the right hon. Gentleman had seen, as he had, the mass of ruin, wreckage, and destruction, as well as the mist and gloom of those Falls, he might take a different view of the matter. It was greatly to be feared that the effect of that tremendous flood-tide of Caucus legislation would be to sweep away much that was good, valued, and well-tried in our Constitution, and to bring anything but blessing and prosperity to the nation.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, that the speeches of hon. Gentlemen opposite were always conceived on the same lines, and always went back to the old story that the country did not desire legislation, and that these Rules would make legislation possible. The noble Lord said he was perfectly convinced that the country required no legislation. [LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: I did not say anything of the kind.] The noble Lord, as he understood, stated that there was no desire for a great mass of legislation. Now, at the last General Election, the Prime Minister showed that the Liberal Party intended to pass a great mass of measures, and the decision of the constituencies was in favour of that legislation. Certainly the people did not scream, or break windows, or destroy Palaces like Blenheim, in order to obtain legislation, because they knew that, without resorting to extreme measures, they would get what they wanted by means of the ballot-box. The noble Lord complained of want of detail in

the Resolution, and compared it to a landscape of Turner's; but he (Mr. Labouchere) was always under the impression that the beauty of Turner's landscapes lay in their details. The noble Lord said if those Grand Committees were established Members of the House would have to work night and day; but under the present system a great many Members sat in Committee from 12 to 4, and after 4 they occupied themselves in the House with the Business of the country. He believed that the appointment of those Committees would not materially add to the work thrown on hon. Members. The noble Lord thought it strange that the proposal had not been made before; but it was only within the last few years that the system of Obstruction had been organized on the other side of the House. ["Oh!"] He did not blame hon. Gentlemen opposite; they would not be Conservatives if they were not obstructing. Never until within the last few years had they so thoroughly organized Obstruction; they had seen the success of it, and were encouraged to persevere. It was asked what Bills not involving Party questions would be referred to those Committees. He might mention the Bankruptcy Bill, and also such measures as the Loadline Bill promoted by Mr. Plimsoll, which could hardly be regarded as Party matters. The noble Lord had objected to the Committee of Selection, and was not satisfied with the right hon. Baronet the Member for the University of Oxford (Sir John Mowbray), because he frequently opposed the action of the Conservative Party. Why, the noble Lord himself was almost invariably in opposition to the Leaders of the Conservative Party. [LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: When?] It would obstruct the Business of the House if he were to specify all the times when the noble Lord took that course. The noble Lord asked whether Gentlemen on the Ministerial side would accept the decisions of the hon. Members for Bedford and Walsall. Now, although the hon. Member for Walsall (Sir Charles Forster) was not so Radical as he was himself, he was, nevertheless, a fair representative Radical in the House. They would have Representatives of all sections of opinion on those Committees. Moreover, it should be remembered that this proposal was entirely a tentative one; and after they had tried it for a Session or

[Thirtieth Night.]

so they would be able to judge whether it answered or not. He, therefore, thought it would be only reasonable to accept the suggestion of the Prime Minister.

MR. STANLEY LEIGHTON said, he thought it no answer to the objection taken to that Resolution that it was an experiment. They had had experiments enough this Session. He did not approve of trying experiments upon the House; he would much sooner have heard some argument derived from experience. And they had had some experience of Committees, and knew something of their advantages and of their defects. If they considered the results of the system they would at once see that increasing the number of Members serving on Committees merely meant decreasing the number available for the work of the House. Under the proposed arrangement the House would present, in future, the same appearance generally as it now did during the dinner hour. Perhaps the Government desired a House of Commons in a state of coma. The simplest calculation would show how inadequate the present Members were to sustain the duties already placed upon them. There were 30 Select Committees last Session giving employment to some 380 Members, and there were as many Private Bill Committees employing 150 more. The House had not got within it a sufficient number of Gentlemen for the purpose required; and, so far from there being any lack of opportunities for hon. Members to employ their talents, the opposite was the fact. The Grand Committees would require 160 Members, in addition to the 430 already employed on Committee work. He must repudiate the idea that there were experts in the House; and he contended that the opinion of any Member who might be regarded in the House as an expert had no weight at all with the real experts out of the House. Large Committees were cumbersome. Even under the present system of selection, where some attempt was made to procure a show of fairness, it was always known beforehand how the Committee would report as soon as it was nominated. The decision depended not upon discussion or evidence, but upon nomination; but the Prime Minister proposed Committees of 60 or 80 Members with a Party majority proportionate to the strength of the Government. The result would be a foregone

conclusion. He was very grateful to the Prime Minister for giving what he considered an opportunity to the younger Members; but, so far from this proposal duplicating the mouth and hands of Parliament, it would, he feared, simply end in duplicating the mouth and hands of the Prime Minister, and of no one else. The right hon. Gentleman would be like a captain on his ship shouting through his trumpet half-a-dozen orders at once. Those Grand Committees would sit in private, or in, at least, some secrecy. To that principle he strongly objected. The two Front Benches would be represented by nominees, who would not be free agents. The idlers of the House would be appointed, because the busy men would be too full of work to attend. The briefless barrister would be there, to represent the knowledge of law which he had not; the men having private interests to serve, the interests of companies, would be there, while impartial men would be conspicuous for absence. The whole system would prove a humbug and imposition.

MR. W. FOWLER said, there were several difficulties raised by this proposal about which he wished to say a few words. The Prime Minister had said that the Settled Estates Act was not a legal measure, and would not have come before a Grand Committee. If it was not a question of law, what was it? The same thing might be said of primogeniture. Obviously, what was wanted was a clear definition of the subjects which were to come within the sphere of the Grand Committees. There was another difficulty connected with the Committee of Selection. No doubt, experts ought to be appointed. On some question, such as railways and shipping, there were some Members who would have almost a right to be appointed. But it would be a great mistake to appoint the experts exclusively, or almost exclusively, without the presence of men of general intelligence and independent minds. Then there would be a great danger in leaving the discussion till the Report. The House was always impatient of much discussion on the Report of a Bill, and a Member could only speak once with the Speaker in the Chair, and would have no opportunity of replying to objections. There was another point alluded to by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross),

Mr. Labouchere

which had made a great impression on his mind, and that was the difficulty that would be found in finding a sufficient number of men able and willing to sit on these Committees, as well as upon the Select Committees on great public and social questions, and also on the Committees for the consideration of Private Bills. If they had 160, or, as some proposed, 240 Members sitting on the Grand Committees, where would they find a sufficient number of Members to do the work of these other Committees? He had himself sat on two Select Committees on Bills, and also on a Committee on an important social question, which lasted during two Sessions, and he had found it extremely difficult to attend to both Committees. That difficulty would be increased under the proposed arrangement. But there could be no doubt that more delegation was absolutely required. He remembered on the Judicature Bill in 1873, when Members sat hour after hour in Committee of the Whole House, and divisions were taken, and Members came into the Lobby and asked what it was all about, and into which Lobby they were to go, without having heard a word of the discussion. That was a most unsatisfactory state of things. The result of the present system was that Bills left that House in such a state that they were the laughing-stock of the Judges who had to interpret them. The proposition as to Select Committees was far more satisfactory than any other he had heard. He believed that the work would be better done by a Select Committee of 20 than by a Standing Committee of 80 Members. He did not agree with the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) that legislation was not required by the country. What the country demanded was that work should be done, and that the work they did should be done well. He would suggest to the Government that something might be done in the development of the system of Select Committees rather than in the direction of the proposal then before them.

MR. O'DONNELL said, he thought it was a curious fact that the only Bills dealt with by this vague and slipshod Rule were those which would be under the charge of the right hon. Gentlemen the Home Secretary and the President of the Board of Trade. He thought, however, the Government could scarcely

ask the House to make an exception in their favour. As regarded the proceedings of the Committee being conducted in secret, he believed that would be a most perilous innovation. The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had referred to local qualifications for those Committees. But he would point out that there was nothing whatever of a local nature in the proposal of the right hon. Gentleman. He considered that there ought to be some distinct understanding as to what measures would not come within the scope of the Rule before it was agreed to by the House. Shipping legislation in times past had involved the gravest quarrels. What vast questions lay behind the Navigation Acts. It was a good thing for sailors that Mr. Plimsoll's measures did not go to a Grand Committee of experts. As to commercial legislation, how had Whig Governments dealt with the manufactures of Ireland? All the subjects proposed to be referred to the Grand Committees bristled with dangers. Nothing could better serve the purposes of an Obstructive Opposition than secret legislation by such Committees. The majesty of the French Legislature was lost in its bureaux, which frittered away the usefulness of its discussions, and thereby provoked discontent among the people. They were asked to pass the Rule for a Session to see how it worked; but that would be no test whatever. Who could tell whether the work of next Session would be a test of the New Rule. It by no means followed that if the Rule were applied to Bills of an important character, such as those numerous Bills to which he had referred, the evils of that Rule would become apparent. It was quite possible that the Government would so use the Rule as that its deficiencies would not become apparent. It might be that the President of the Board of Trade would postpone those revolutionary measures with which he delighted his constituents and alarmed everyone else. If the Rule worked beneficially at all, it could only do so in the case of Private Bills; and Private Bills could be much better dealt with by a fair and business-like system of Select Committees than by this extraordinary proposal of Grand Committees, about which the only thing they could say with certainty was that there was nothing certain about it. The hon. Member for Stafford (Mr. Salt) had called atten-

tion to a most important matter with regard to the working of this Rule. Bills of magnitude were to be taken from 12 o'clock to 4. How was the necessary machinery to be provided? The two Standing Committees were either to comprise, or they were not to comprise, the best men in the House. If they were not to comprise the best men in the House, he did not see the particular advantage of the House delegating all its power to second-rates. If they were to comprise the best men, was the general Business of the House to be starved through the absence of those Members of the House best qualified for Public Business? There was no way out of this dilemma. It was not to be supposed that Members who had been giving their close attention to arduous Business from 12 o'clock to 4 could devote the same attention to Business from 4 till 12. It was not everyone who had the same power of application to business as the Premier. The right hon. Gentleman was measuring mankind by his own standard. If he would kindly take a lower estimate of the capacity of Members of the House, he felt sure he would not make such enormous demands on the capacity of the House. Then, again, the hours of 12 to 4 were the principal business hours of the world; so that all the great merchants must be excluded from these Grand Committees, for they would be engaged in their counting-houses considering questions of almost national magnitude. Moreover, the great lawyers would be excluded from these Grand Committees, especially as they would soon be removed from the immediate vicinity of the House. These Grand Committees would ultimately fall into the hands of two classes of Members, consisting first of those who were interested in the subject-matter of the Bills with which the Grand Committees had to do. Those Members would do all in their power to get on those Committees, and they could not be blamed for doing so, because they would have been deprived of their right to discuss Bills in Committee of the Whole House. They must try either to get on the Committee themselves, or to place on them Members who were their second selves, and who would be sure to further their views. The result would be, in short, to introduce the system of American "lobbying." Then, the other class of Members who would

get on the Grand Committees would consist of mere Ministerialists, who would give their vote according to the bidding of the Government of the day. ["Divide, divide!"] They were the Members who cried "Divide, divide!" already, and who would cry "Time, time!" when Liberalism had worn off its first blush and gagging had become the regular practice. Then Committees would become the refuge of Members in the same manner as the Grand Juries in country towns became the regular hunting grounds of the guinea-pig. He entirely denied that there was any provision for local wants in the scheme of the Government. On the contrary, it was fraught with all the evils of the Old World and the New, and would only intensify the worst evils of the Imperial system. Now they had free and open discussion in that House; but under the new scheme they would not be able even to choose the men who should represent them. He looked upon the scheme of the Government as one which would disfranchise two-thirds of the House, and would combine the worst evils of the French legislative bureau with the corruptions of American "lobbying" and "logrotting;" and, that being the case, it seemed to him a waste of time to discuss it.

MR. W. E. FORSTER: Sir, I hope the House will allow me to say one word. I am very anxious that the House should not separate in this Autumn Session without resolving to try the experiment of these Grand Committees. My motive for wishing that is simply this. We have got a very great deal of work to do, and it is time that we tried whether we could not get it done quicker and better upon the principle of a division of labour. That appears to me to be the argument in favour of this proposal. I do not deny that there may be dangers in the scheme; but if there are dangers, they would be quickly found out on a trial of the experiment. At all events, I think it is abundantly worth while that we should try the experiment. I do not agree with the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell) that the Grand Committees would be packed. If I felt that the Government proposed to do anything of the kind, I would not for a moment support these Resolutions. But as it is proposed to arrange the constitution of the Grand Committees, I believe that

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they would be fairly representative of the House. And that is what I imagine we should aim at. The particular subjects which are proposed to be brought before the Grand Committees seem to me very good subjects for making the trial. It may be a matter for future debate whether the scheme has been successful; but at this moment we are only asked whether we will try it or not. Hon. Members have said that all these powers are an innovation upon the practice of the House; but I must say that when they charged my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister with bringing forward all his revolutionary projects under the guise of their being trade proposals to be submitted to the Standing Committees I think they were very wide of the mark. Why are we all kept here notwithstanding our longing to be away? We all know that the country is dissatisfied, and very rightly dissatisfied, with our getting through our work so slowly, and, on the whole, not getting through it well. They are determined that we should in some way re-cast our machinery of legislation. That is undoubtedly the reason why we are here. The country do not take much interest in the details, but they expect us to get through our work. They say—"Give us the measures we ought to have, and do not let us wait indefinitely for them." We have now been several weeks going through the Resolutions, which are intended to meet Obstruction and unnecessary delay. I hope they will be successful; but I do not believe that they alone would enable us to get through our work. We ought to see if we cannot provide machinery by which we can do more work. Hon. Members have said, Why not re-cast the Select Committees? Sometimes a Select Committee succeeds in drafting a Bill which prevents discussion in the House; but it must also be remembered that many of the Bills which are sometimes considered in Select Committees are often discussed in the House, and I do not see very well how an extension of Select Committees can give us the division of labour we require, unless the proposal for re-casting the Select Committees be very much of the same kind as the proposal we have now before us. The real matter we have to consider is this. Is it necessary that the whole House should be engaged in deliberating upon the details of the Bills that come before the House?

We know that, generally speaking, except in regard to a few of the most important Bills, nothing approaching the whole strength of the House is engaged. Then, why can we not have, side by side, a Committee going through these details? By that means I conceive that we might get a great deal more work done, and that is the sole ground for the proposal. It appears to me to be a very reasonable proposal which may be very fairly tried. Depend upon it, there would be plenty of opponents of it; and if there were faults in the plan, the first Session would, in all probability, enable them to be found out. I do not think that any mere coercion—if I may use the word—to prevent some hon. Members from speaking over much, or speaking obstructively, will by itself, and of itself, enable us to do our work. We must consider how we, as sensible men, meeting together in considerable numbers, can array our forces so as to enable us to get through the work we are appointed to do. It should be our endeavour to make the Grand Committee a fair Committee. If it is not a fair Committee it ought never to be appointed. I apprehend the Government will be open to accept Amendments if it can be shown that there is any necessity; and if there is anything like unfairness, I have not the slightest doubt that it will be remedied afterwards. But I should be very sorry if, after all the time we have spent, we were to separate by discarding the only plan which has been brought before us for economizing our time, and resting content simply with Rules which, although I have strongly supported them, and which I believe to be necessary, will not of themselves finish the work, but will merely prevent Obstruction and too much talk. The whole question lies in a nutshell. The House and the country are convinced of the evil of our being unable to get through our work by the immense complexities of all the interests involved; and they are so impressed with the difficulty of getting through it, that they think we should do well to try this plan of a division of labour and of economizing the work. Those hon. Members who do not think so will vote against the proposal. On the other hand, I feel the evil so strongly, and the danger of our dissatisfying the country and the Parliamentary Institutions of the country by that dissatisfaction, that I am

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most anxious to see the experiment tried.

MR. GIBSON: Sir, if any justification were wanted for the Amendment of my right hon. Friend, I think it would be found in the whole tone and course of the present debate. It has now been going on for six hours, and since the Prime Minister made his speech in support of the very remarkable Resolution before us, not a single Member on the Treasury Bench has risen, although two Members sitting near me have spoken, and although several important speeches have been delivered on this side of the House, notably one by my noble Friend the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill), who put a series of most searching questions to Her Majesty's Government. Indeed, the only support accorded to the Government has been the speech of their trusty Friend the hon. Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere), and that of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster), who has just spoken. There have been during the progress of the discussion, no doubt, many Members sitting opposite who, from their character and attainments, and the length of time they have occupied a seat in this House, are entitled to speak with great authority; but up to this moment we have not been favoured with any intimation of what their opinion is. The right hon. Gentleman who has just spoken has not applied himself to solve any of the almost obvious problems which arise on the surface of the Resolution. He has not applied himself to answer any one of the questions put to the Government from this side of the House; and the only burden of his speech was—"Try the experiment, although I admit that there are dangers in it." The House can hardly too strongly bear in mind the immensity and the gravity of the change now presented to us by the Prime Minister, nor should we lose sight of the fatigue of the whole House—that all of us are weary of being taken from our homes and kept from them at this time of the year. The Prime Minister himself did not seek to minimize the immense importance of his proposal. Anyone who studies for himself the tone and structure of the Resolutions will see that nothing short of revolutionizing the Business of the House of Commons is sought to be accom-

plished. It certainly was not a little startling to find the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) quietly putting aside as a mere nothing the deliberations we have been engaged in during the last five weeks, because, in his opinion, the 12 Resolutions which we have to-day made Standing Orders is a matter which will not help, to any appreciable extent, the business of legislation. We are not, I think, at liberty to forget the gravity and the momentous importance of these Resolutions, by being told that they are experimental. That word has been used more than once by the Prime Minister; it has also been used more than once by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster). But experiments are sometimes very grave things, and doubly grave when applied to very serious matters. Neither should we lose sight of the importance of these Resolutions. In a catchword used by the Prime Minister three times in the course of his eloquent speech in moving the Resolutions, we were told that they are "liberal" Resolutions. If you christen a thing well and give it a good name, the chance is that people will be carried away by the name and forget the substance; but we are not disposed, on this side of the House, to accept the word on trust. We see nothing of liberality in the Resolutions, and very little that is liberating. The fruits likely to result from adopting the Resolutions are said to be very remarkable; but those fruits are contradicted by the expectations the Prime Minister gave as to the result. They rest upon two grounds. First, that the arrears of legislation would be dealt with adequately—that the work of the country would be done, or, to use the words of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster), that the country would cease to be dissatisfied. Now, I am of opinion that a great many queer things are said about the wishes of the country. My own opinion is that the country does not care one farthing about a lot of these Bills that are said to be so necessary for them. I am aware that the hon. Member for Chelsea (Sir Charles W. Dilke) has strung a list of Bills together, which he assumes the country is anxious about; and occasionally the right hon. Member for Birmingham (Mr. John Bright) says something to the same

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effect; but, as far as I am concerned—and I have attended several election contests—I have not seen a single symptom of dissatisfaction on the subject. This is the principal point. Those who are doing the work of the country are anxious to get rid of the arrears of legislation; but what is the practice to which that principle is to be applied? In the same breath the Prime Minister says—“These Grand Committees are not to be understood to apply themselves to Party legislation.” Then, that completely answers the claim to these Grand Committees. [Mr. GLADSTONE dissented.] I see that the Prime Minister shakes his head; but he distinctly stated that as one of the grounds for disarming suspicion—namely, that Party measures were not to be submitted to these Grand Committees. If they are not to be measures of a Party character, they would not be measures likely to be keenly or hotly contested in this House; and if they were investigated before a Select Committee the chance is that, like other important measures, they would be accepted readily by the House, and would not be further discussed. Then, I think if Party measures—measures on which the great Parties of the State are vitally separated, and which are regarded from opposite and hostile points of view by the different Parties of the State—if such measures are not to be sent to the Grand Committees, you are not sending the Bills in regard to which there is contention—that is to say, the Bills which would occupy time; but you are proposing to send the non-Party Bills—Bills which would occupy the least discussion, and would require the least attention at the hands of the House. Is that a justification for working out a complete revolution of the whole Procedure of the House? Does it not look very like the thin end of the wedge—the beginning of an experiment which can be described as innocent? And then, when we have these Grand Committees on their legs, the Government will come down and say—“They work so admirably and so well, that there is no reason why great Party measures should not be freely sent to them.” That was the important reason given for these Grand Committees by the Prime Minister. Then there was a second reason, which, as far as I can find out, was this—that the younger Members of Parliament

would not be shut out as they are at present. Of course, the phrase “new to Parliamentary life” is a very elastic one. A man of 70, if he entered the House yesterday, would be called a lad in Parliamentary life, although he would not be so in physical life. But I suppose the Prime Minister intended that young and inexperienced Members should have a chance of coming out; and, therefore, he paid a compliment to his own Party when he said that there was never in the House greater intellectual capacity or moral readiness. Now, I have heard of intellectual capacity before; but “moral readiness” has a touch of novelty about it which I was pleased to hear. Then the right hon. Gentleman stated that there are a large number of Members well qualified to speak. That appears to have become a shibboleth on the Treasury Bench. The First Commissioner of Works (Mr. Shaw Lefevre) went all the way to Reading to announce that if they could only get a reform of the Procedure of the House eloquent and thoughtful Radicals would then have a chance. But if there is one thing perfectly plain, it is that the Rules already submitted by the House and these Resolutions combined, the joint operation of the two, could not in the slightest degree affect the quality of the speeches, but only the quantity; and young and old Members must in the future, as in the past, run their chance all the same. I do not for the life of me understand what is meant by the reference to younger Members, unless it is suggested that these little toy Parliaments are to be the nurseries in which these young Members are to be educated, and to learn how to speak and how to conduct themselves. There is another reason given for the startling change which the Government propose to make, and which was dealt with very fully by my noble Friend the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill), and that is the relief which the appointment of Grand Committees would give to the House from physical labour. Now, whenever the Prime Minister comes to a matter which ordinary people are not likely to see, and in regard to which nine persons out of ten would adopt a contrary view if let alone, he at once approaches and announces a discovery the other way; and, accordingly, the Prime Minister puts

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in the forefront, as the reason for effecting this change, the state of our physical labour. I have no desire to repeat now the pointed inquiries upon that subject which were made by my noble Friend (Lord Randolph Churchill); but if the adoption of these Resolutions will not materially increase the physical labour of these Grand Committees, I am at a loss to understand what is the meaning of physical labour. If a man after working on a Grand Committee all day were to go home and dine and go to bed, I could understand that he would get some actual relief from physical labour; but if a man is to perform his duties on a Grand Committee and toil for four or five hours and then come here and toil for eight, nine, or ten hours more, that will nearly double his physical labour; and I hope that whoever is going to speak next on the Treasury Bench will try to improve the proposition which the Prime Minister, with that grace of manner and that charm of eloquence he always possesses, has stated as an admitted fact. The right hon. Gentleman was asked by an hon. Member at one time if it was intended by the Government to take the Resolutions which stand upon the Paper in the names of private Members, and whether they would be dealt with this Session. The right hon. Gentleman gave an answer which threw a flood of light upon the matter as to the way in which the Amendment of my right hon. Friend is to be dealt with. It is urged that these Resolutions are presumably entitled to much consideration; that they all deal with most important topics, many of them standing in the name of most experienced Members, and yet the Prime Minister asks—"Is there any prospect now of their being satisfactorily considered?" The Prime Minister having to-day given that as a reason why it is not desirable to go beyond the Government Resolutions, asks the House now, thinned in numbers, impatient in the audience they are giving us obviously all through this debate, and not having of themselves the heart or the desire to take part in this discussion, to pass these important Resolutions. Is it considered by the Government that it is reasonable to expect from the House a satisfactory consideration of their Resolutions this week, when that consideration cannot be expected next week for similar Resolu-

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tions proposed by other Members of the House? Anyone who has glanced round the House in the course of the discussion will have seen that this immense change is being discussed in a House of far less than one-tenth of its strength, and never exceeding one-sixth part of it. That is a matter which is entitled to grave consideration, and which I hope the country will notice. Most unquestionably the country will be reminded of it in the Recess, and will be told that we are being compelled to consider this, which, as the Prime Minister says, is the most important part of his whole scheme for the change of Procedure, at a time when the House is practically not in Session, when the vast bulk of its Members are away, and when many of those who remain on the Government side of the House are unwilling to speak, and are somewhat impatient to listen to other people who desire to speak. It is not to be lost sight of that 12 Resolutions have been passed, and to-day made into Standing Orders, dealing with most important matters. Those important matters have been put under four heads; but I will divide them into three only—Obstruction, direct and indirect, excessive talk, and Motions on going into Committee of Supply. The result asserted by the Government for their code of laws is that they have embodied in the 12 Resolutions the restoration of the disciplinary power of the House. I am entitled to assume that it must be the Government case that in these 12 Resolutions they have adequately, completely, and effectually dealt with all those matters to which the Prime Minister referred, and that thereby they have restored the disciplinary power and action of the House. Then, have I not a right to ask the House, and has Parliament not a right to expect, and the country to demand, that some little experiment should be tried of the operation of these 12 Resolutions before you supplement them by introducing another Resolution, more drastic and more revolutionary than any ever tried in this Parliament before? I would ask this question; I do not think the Prime Minister has answered it. What is the advantage to be gained by this change? What is the advantage to the credit and the honour of Parliament? What is the advantage to the efficiency of Business—what, in point

of fact, is the advantage to be gained to the comfort of Members? Do not imagine that our criticisms are factious. We have a clear proposition to make. You can try the 12 Resolutions you have deliberately passed. You assert that they will be sufficient to cope with Obstruction in its various forms, with the evil effects of excessive talk, and also with the evils resulting from too many Motions upon going into Committee of Supply. Our proposition is to try the experiment and see how these 12 Resolutions will work, supplemented by a more free use of Select Committees; and then, having tried the experiment, if you find that it fails, you can then come to Parliament, if you please, and ask for power to supplement it by giving you these New Resolutions. Do not be too sure that even if you get this new measure you will not find something that will not enable you to achieve all the objects you have in view, and that may not produce greater delay than you have heretofore experienced. You, by your action as regarded previous Resolutions, have repudiated the co-operation of the Opposition; and what have you gained? By compelling the transfer to these Committees, which you call Grand Committees, of certain Bills you will find it necessary to leave the Report stage free. You have closed it under certain conditions in regard to the ordinary Committees; but you will have to leave it open for the consideration of Bills which have only passed through these Grand Committees. Then, do you not think that when a Bill comes back to this House of Parliament the House will not invite a thorough, complete, and full investigation of such Bill to the full extent of its rights, and that it will not criticize what you have sought to get criticized quietly, and, it may be, in a hole-and-corner way upstairs? I should like to hear an answer to this, if there is anyone to take part in this discussion from the Treasury Bench. I presume that there is, if taking notes affords any clue. The right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) was an hour, looking his very best all the time, taking notes with great apparent intelligence and with well assumed interest; but I remarked that when it became reasonably proper for the right hon. Gentleman to take part

in the debate he received some intimation, or without any intimation he left the House. I do not know whether he is within audience at present; but I should be very glad, if he is not going to speak, if he would, at any rate, lend his notes to some other Member of the House; and then, between the notes taken by the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain) and the notes taken by the President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Dodson), possibly some Member of the Government might hash up some kind of a speech. Now, I should like to have some information on two or three points which I think the House is entitled to information upon, before we decide upon the Amendment of my right hon. Friend, or, at any rate, before the Resolutions are disposed of. It is a matter, I think, of very great importance to know whether there is to be an order made in each case that a Bill is to be sent to a Grand Committee. I should like to know that, because the Prime Minister was exquisitely vague in his speech. Is it intended that the Bills are to go direct and straight to the heaven of these Grand Committees without any intervention whatever from the House? There does not seem to be any intimation from the Treasury Bench on the subject. If the Prime Minister were here, he would, no doubt, shake his head either way; but as the House is now situated we are left entirely in the dark upon the subject, and have simply to speculate upon it. I am very glad that the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade has come into the House. I was about to put the first of three queries which I have to address to the Government. The rest of my speech the right hon. Gentleman must obtain from the usual channels of information. The first question is this. Is it intended that all Bills contemplated in the Resolution are *ipso facto* to go up to the Grand Committee without any order whatever from the House? Now, that is a perfectly reasonable question. I ask, what is the meaning of saying, as it does in the Resolution, "unless the House shall otherwise order?" Does that mean that the House, in regard to each Bill, is to be given an opportunity of saying "Aye" or "No;" or does it mean the same thing as a notice in regard to a Judicature Act, or certain

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other Acts of Parliament, that 40 days would be given for a dissent to be handed in, and that then the Act would become law? We all know the way in which that works. There is no opportunity given to the House for expressing its dissent, and at the end of 40 days the Act becomes law whether we like it or not. Is it intended that all Bills are to go up, and that any Member who wishes to object will have to ballot for a chance of dissenting; or is it intended that each Bill is to have a direct order from the House, so that any Member will have the right to object before the Committee enters upon its labours? That is a plain and a precise question, and a most material question too. Under this order, by a kind of mechanical operation, if a Bill in the category included in the Resolution is introduced in this House, and passes a second reading, and finds its way upstairs, if the Grand Committee once begins to sit upon it, there is no power in your Rules ever to get it down again except upon the Report stage. These are obviously difficult matters, in regard to which the House is entitled to information; and if you are not able to give that information it shows that you have not considered the most obvious points of your scheme, and that the Motion of my right hon. Friend is entitled to be carried, in order to enable you to make up your minds upon it. Another point of difficulty is this—what is meant by the “composition of the House?” I have read that phrase with all the intelligence I could bring to bear upon the matter, and I do not quite realize what is in the mind of the Government. I always like, whenever I can, humbly to put myself on the standpoint of the Government, and, in as small a way as I can, to realize their intellectual standpoint; but I frankly admit that I am wholly at a loss to understand what is meant by having regard to the composition of the House, in co-relation to the other Resolutions. In point of fact, the Prime Minister says—“Take our scheme; it will do no harm, because we do not intend to deal with Party Bills or Party measures.” That is borne out further by the Committee of Selection being the tribunal to select the Committee. But if the Bills are not to be Party Bills, and if the tribunal is not to be a Party tribunal,

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but, as far as possible, is to be neutral, then, in the name of common sense, why are we to have regard to the composition of the House, or, in other words, the Party ingredients of the House? That is a plain and simple point, and a point we are entitled to have information upon before we go further. The “composition of the House” must be the Party composition of the House. You have said that you do not want to send Party Bills to these Grand Committees, and that the new tribunal is to be selected by the Committee of Selection. I would, therefore, ask what do you mean by saying that a Party tribunal is to be selected to decide upon Bills which you proclaim are not to be Party Bills? There is only one other difficulty to which I desire to call attention. I do not like more than three at a time. Some of my hon. Friends, who will speak after me, will, no doubt, add to the category; and, if any of the hon. Gentlemen below the Gangway choose to speak, they can, if they like, increase the list to any extent. The point upon which I desire information is one which it is necessary I should put, because, unlike America, we have no Supreme Court to decide the matter. What I want to know is this—when you have got every mechanical arrangement in operation by which certain Bills are to come before the Grand Committee, who is to decide which Bills are to go before the Committee in a particular category? Your category is elastic and indefinite, and it might grasp Bills which every single Member sitting on the Treasury Bench would repudiate as coming within the category. Then, who is to decide in the case of doubtful Bills? Take the question of law. Take a Bill to regulate the jury system of this country—a matter of most vital consequence, and involving an immense difference of opinion, especially in Ireland. Is that to be a law Bill? It is a Bill regulating legal procedure—a Bill dealing with the conduct of and the procedure connected with trials. Would such a measure come within the meaning of “law,” and is it to go upstairs, or is it to be kept here? If it is to go upstairs, is it to go there without the House having an opportunity of debating it? Who is to decide what the term “law” is to include? The term “trade” is one of the widest, most comprehensive, most elastic, and

most indefinite terms the English language can supply. You have put it in your 1st Resolution; but you do not define it, and you do not give us any tribunal which is to define it. Would the Crimes Bill of this Session, which created a new tribunal, have been a law Bill? I should be glad to know what the opinion of the Government is in reference to that. Then let me take the word "trade," and let me remind you that you do not define these terms. May be you could not; but you say that you have selected simple terms which speak for themselves. Now, let me take these simple terms, and I contend that they may become very complex and complicated terms. Let me take the term "trade." What is to become of the Liquor Laws? Do not they all involve trade, and mere trade? There is nothing in the Liquor Laws but trade. Then, are the Liquor Laws grasped in the term trade, and are they to go upstairs? At all events, we are not receiving any assistance in debating these points from the Government, either by a simple "Yes" or "No." When the Prime Minister was here he said "Yes" and "No" quite fairly, turn and turn about. I take it that the Liquor Laws may be sent to the Grand Committees under the head of "trade." Then, again, what is to become of the Licensing Laws? Are they to go upstairs under the word "law," and the Liquor Laws to go upstairs under the term "trade?" I have a suspicion that this grand new weapon—I will withdraw that expression, because the Prime Minister says it is not a "weapon," but that it is "a liberating measure"—I half think in my own mind that this liberating measure will puzzle the Government a great deal. Yet, if they get it, I think my right hon. Friend who has moved the Amendment on this occasion is in the novel position of being the best friend the Government have in this House. I myself object to go on with these Resolutions, because I think a pressing necessity has not been shown, because I think it is wise and common sense to try the weapons you have so recently obtained. Supplement them, if you please, by a more copious and liberal use of Select Committees, and if that fails, then you may look further. But, at all events, I say that it is now too late in the Session to consider a matter

of such immense importance. I maintain that the constitution of the House is not such as to represent the calm and deliberate judgment of Parliament on one of the most important propositions ever submitted to it; and, therefore, I hope the Government will consider favourably, and with a disposition to meet it as fully as they can, the Amendment which has been moved by my right hon. Friend.

MR. DODSON: The right hon. and learned Gentleman who has just sat down, in one part of his speech, has been good enough to supply an answer to another part. He said—"You have obtained your 12 disciplinary Rules. They are strong Rules, and you ought to be satisfied with them." I am only giving the effect of what the right hon. and learned Gentleman said.

MR. GIBSON: I certainly did not recognize the language.

MR. DODSON: I think that the right hon. and learned Gentleman will not dispute that that is the effect of what he said—"You have got 12 disciplinary Rules. You ought to stop there and be content with trying them before you go on and ask the House to adopt these further Rules respecting Grand Committees." Then, shortly afterwards, the right hon. and learned Gentleman went on to say—"If you have got these 12 disciplinary Rules, and even if you have got your Standing Committees, I am very much inclined to think that you will be disappointed in the result, and that what you think and anticipate will be the result and effect will not be so great as you imagine." Then, if the effect of the two combined changes is not to be so great as we anticipate, surely that is a justification for us in endeavouring to go on, though we have obtained the first part of the Resolutions, with the second part of our proposals also. Now, I myself have been for some years anxious to see the Procedure of the House in some respects reformed; and I hope the Rules which have already been adopted, and the supplementary Rules which I trust will be adopted, will contribute very much to improve the conduct and facilitate the progress of Business in this House. At the same time, I must say that I entertain no exaggerated notions of the great effect that is to follow from them—that is to say, I do not disguise

from myself that there will still remain considerable difficulties in regard to the conduct of Business in this House; and I am prepared to make that admission to the right hon. and learned Gentleman, if it is any satisfaction to him. I have no doubt that when we come to put these different New Rules in force that some difficulties connected with them, which have not been foreseen, may possibly crop up, when they come to be put in practice and have to be dealt with. The right hon. and learned Gentleman said—"What is the advantage of these Resolutions? You have already got 12 disciplinary Rules." Now, the 12 disciplinary Rules are entirely for a different purpose, they are for regulating the order and conduct of the Business of the House; whereas these Standing Committees are intended to multiply the working power of the House, and to endeavour, by a division of labour, to facilitate the progress of legislation. The right hon. and learned Gentleman complains of the speech of my right hon. Friend the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster), and he says my right hon. Friend has only addressed himself to this point—that the simple question before the House was whether these Resolutions should be tried experimentally. No doubt, my right hon. Friend said—"Try them as an experiment," and my right hon. Friend was quite entitled to say that, because the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross) is simply to the effect that the House should refuse to allow the experiment to be tried. That is the only question at issue—is the experiment of Standing Committees to be tried, "Aye" or "No?"

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: My Amendment is to the effect that there is neither time to debate these proposals, nor for the House to consider them.

MR. DODSON: Very well. The effect of that is that we should not agree to try the experiment now.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: I contend that we are not in a position to do it.

MR. DODSON: What we are endeavouring to persuade the House is that we should pass these Resolutions now, and give the experiment a fair trial. The immediate question, therefore, raised by the Amendment is whether

we shall give a trial to the experiment—"Aye" or "No." The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) who has just sat down has divided the matter into three great crucial questions. The first is, is it to be a matter of absolute necessity that the Bills mentioned in the Resolutions are to be committed to a Standing Committee of the House? The answer to that will be found by the right hon. and learned Gentleman if he will examine the 4th Resolution, which states that, as a general rule, such Bills shall be committed to one of the Standing Committees, "unless the House shall otherwise order."

MR. GIBSON: It says the general rule shall be so.

MR. DODSON: That is the effect of the general rule—namely, that the general practice shall be to refer the Bills mentioned to one of the Standing Committees, unless the House shall otherwise order.

MR. GIBSON: Would they not refer themselves to a Standing Committee under that Rule, without any intervention on the part of the House? That is the whole point.

MR. DODSON: The whole point is that the House will always have the power of ordering otherwise.

MR. GIBSON: Will the House have the opportunity of doing so before any Bill is sent to the Committee upstairs? That is the whole point.

MR. DODSON: Certainly.

MR. GIBSON: In regard to each Bill?

MR. DODSON: Yes. What would be the use of this Resolution if the House was not to have that power? Then the right hon. and learned Gentleman put another question. He said—"What is meant by 'the composition of the House?'" I should have thought that a Gentleman of the ability of the right hon. and learned Gentleman was equal to the interpretation of those words, and that he would see that the Committee of Selection was to appoint the Standing Committee not on the principle upon which Select Committees are now appointed—namely, by taking an equal number from each side of the House—but rather in regard not only to the character of the Bills themselves, but to the character of the House and its composition. In point of fact, that

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it should be a fair Committee, and I cannot find better words to express it than the words of the Resolution itself—namely, “the composition of the House.”

MR. GIBSON: Does it mean Party composition?

MR. DODSON: Party composition will, doubtless, be one element, and the character of the Bills themselves will be another. Then the right hon. and learned Gentleman asks a third question, which he seems to think was the most tremendous poser of all. He says—“You do not define what is law; you do not define what is trade.” Well, it is no very easy matter to define them. It is said—“Who is to decide what Bills are to go to the Committee?” Well, I answer, the House. [An hon. MEMBER: How?] How? Why, in the ordinary way. The right hon. and learned Member knows how to get a name affixed to a Committee. I think he is the hon. Member who spoke of a former Resolution as a “Gagging Resolution,” and he now speaks of this as revolutionizing the House of Commons. I do not know whether he was here when the hon. Member for Mid Lincolnshire (Mr. Stanhope) spoke; but, if he was, he must, unless I am very much mistaken, have heard this Resolution described as one “dealing with the very small question of relegating certain Bills to Grand Committees.” Whether it be a small question, or whether it be a revolution, I think the House will not be frightened by the alarming epithet of the right hon. and learned Gentleman, and will not shrink from debating it properly. The right hon. and learned Gentleman appears to think that the country cares nothing for legislation. [MR. GIBSON: I did not say that.] And then he proceeded to ask—“How are these Grand Committees to help legislation?” In reply to that query, I would say we hope they will help legislation by dividing the House, and by enabling us to make progress with a greater number of Bills. We trust that it will relieve the labour of the great bulk of Members of the House as regards Committees of the Whole House by delegating the duties of Committees of the Whole House, with regard to certain Bills, to the limited number of Members composing the Standing Committees. If this is not, a proposition calculated at once to mul-

tiply the working powers of the House, and, at the same time, to relieve a considerable number of Members from labour, I am at a loss to understand what plan could effect it. Some hon. Member—I think it was the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill), whom I do not see in his place—made an attack on the Committee of Selection, and that attack reminded me of the line of argument taken all through the discussion of the 12 former Resolutions. What was the bugbear held out to us all through that discussion? Why, it was that the Speakers and Chairmen of Committees of the future would be fearful monsters, in whom no fairness would be found; and the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock, and other hon. Members who have spoken in the same sense, have adopted the same tone in regard to the Committees of Selection of the future. They say—“How are you to trust future Committees of Selection?” Sir, the answer is the same as that given in the case of the Speaker and Chairman of Committees. You have had experience of Committees of Selection for many years, and you have always found them to work fairly and honourably, and to give satisfaction to the House generally; and until a contrary state of things prevails I decline to believe that the Committees of Selection of the future will not prove as fair and as honourable, and give as much satisfaction to the House as those of the past. Then it has been said that the country is in no haste for legislation, and that there are no signs that the country is not satisfied with the way in which Business is conducted in this House. Well, that is a matter of opinion, and Gentlemen on this side of the House, according to their experience, or according to their ideas, will maintain their opinions. My own opinion, from what I have been able to see, hear, and read outside, is that for some time past the House has fallen short in the proper conduct of its Business—that it has been to a great extent paralyzed, and has not been able to get through the amount of legislation or conduct its legislation with that accuracy and decision which was expected of it. I have only one other point to refer to, and I am sorry at this hour to have detained the House so long. It has been represented that these Grand Commit-

tees are to be Committees of experts; and it has been objected that the Bills referred to them will, consequently, be considered from an extremely narrow point of view. I would only point out that the 2nd Resolution negatives that proposition. The direction it gives to the Committees of Selection is that in nominating the Committees regard is to be had to the class of Bills to be committed to them, and to the composition of the House, and the qualifications of hon. Members. It must not be supposed that the qualification of a Member will consist merely in his being an expert on a particular subject. The direction will be of a general character, and it appears to me it will be a very fair one as to the principle on which they are to be guided in composing the Committee—namely, as far as possible to make it, having regard to the character of the Bills, representative of the character and composition of the House. Sir, I venture to hope that we may now be allowed to arrive at a decision on the Amendment before us. ["No, no!"] Yes; the Amendment before us is one which simply raises the issue—are we to be allowed to try this experiment next Session or not? It is said we should not pass this Resolution now because of the lateness of the Session; but this Autumn Session has been held on purpose to determine this matter of Procedure, and I venture to think that we are in a better position to consider this subject now, during the present Sitting, which has been held for this special purpose, when our minds are free and unencumbered with other Business, than we should be at the commencement of another Session, when we shall have a large amount of Business of various kinds hanging over us, which we shall be anxious and eager to dispose of.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That the Debate be now adjourned."

—(*Captain Aylmer.*)

Motion agreed to.

Debate adjourned till To-morrow.

Q U E S T I O N.

CRIME (IRELAND) — ATTEMPTED
MURDER OF MR. D. J. FIELD
IN DUBLIN.

LORD JOHN MANNERS: Before
the House adjourns I wish to ask the

Mr. Dodson

Prime Minister, or the Home Secretary, whether he is able to give any information respecting a painful report which has reached the House from Dublin? It is understood that certainly one, and perhaps two, officers of the law have been sacrificed in the most atrocious manner in the streets of Dublin. We wish to know whether the Government can give any confirmation of the report?

MR. GLADSTONE: An account has reached us by telegraph during the Sitting of the House to the effect that a juror in the case of Hynes has been assaulted by two men, who got off a car, struck him down in North Frederick Street, Dublin, and wounded him in various places gravely and, perhaps, fatally. Two young men came to his assistance; but the malefactors—murderers, at any rate in intention, I may call them—got upon the car and drove off at a rapid pace. The young men endeavoured to raise the hue and cry, but did not succeed in inducing the car to stop. There has also been a second rumour about the House during the latter part of the evening; but as a telegram as late as 11.49 has been received from the Dublin police on the subject of the former outrage, which makes no allusion to the second, the rational inference seems to be that that is the not unnatural growth of the tale of horror which has been told and the excitement which has arisen.

House adjourned at half after
Twelve o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Tuesday, 28th November, 1882.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven
of the clock for the despatch of Judicial
Business only.

House adjourned at Four o'clock,
till To-morrow, half past
Ten o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Tuesday, 28th November, 1882.

QUESTIONS.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT—
THE INVESTIGATORS.

MR. LEA (for Mr. T. A. DICKSON) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he will lay upon the Table a Return giving the names, residences, and qualifications of the Investigators appointed under the Arrears Act?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Return asked for by the hon. Member shall be presented immediately.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE—
THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the fact that the attendance of both the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner of the Dublin Police at their offices is very irregular; whether the office is sometimes left empty for hours and sometimes not visited at all in the course of the day; and, whether applicants for licences for arms and other matters are not thus seriously inconvenienced?

MR. TREVELYAN: During the past five years the Chief Commissioner of Metropolitan Police has not been absent on any day from his office with the exception of a few weeks' leave. He is seldom able to leave it before six o'clock in the evening—often later. Many times he has been on duty day and night. During the last three years especially he has found it very difficult to avail himself of leave, and during his occasional absence he has no reason to believe that there was any irregularity in the attendance of the Assistant Commissioner. With regard to alleged inconveniences to applicants for arms licences, I beg to say that all applications for such licences must be made in writing, and some delay must arise through the necessity of making inquiries with regard to the character of the applicant. Recent deplorable occurrences in Dublin show the

absolute necessity for the exercise of the greatest caution in this respect. Personally, when I have forwarded applications from individuals whose character and position did not require examination I have found the request for the licence responded to at once. The other day I got a letter from a friend of the hon. Member thanking me for so promptly procuring him a licence for introducing three scimitars for the illustrating a lecture on the East. I may add that the Chief Commissioner assures me that it is not the case that his office is left empty for hours, and sometimes not visited at all by him and the Assistant Commissioner in the course of the day.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR stated that he did not complain of the authorities exercising due precaution in the granting of licences; but he complained of the Commissioner not being in his place. He wished to thank the right hon. Gentleman for the readiness with which his friend, Mr. O'Donovan, obtained a licence for arms.

THE ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY—
RETIREMENT.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, How many officers of the Royal Irish Constabulary have had to retire under the new Act on the ground of being upwards of sixty years of age; how many officers in the Dublin Metropolitan Police are over sixty years of age; and, whether it is intended to apply the same rule to them as to the officers of the Royal Irish Constabulary?

MR. TREVELYAN: Seventeen officers of the Royal Irish Constabulary have had to retire on the 1st of October, under the Constabulary (Ireland) Amendment Act, 1882, being 60 of age and upwards. There are two officers in the Dublin Metropolitan Police who are over 60. Under the existing law the same rule cannot be applied to them as to the officers of the Royal Irish Constabulary.

STATE OF IRELAND—HOLYCROSS AND
BALLYCAHILL, CO. TIPPERARY.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, with reference to the announcement in the Dublin Gazette that the parishes of Holycross and Ballycahill, county Tip-

perary, are to have an extra force of police, Whether it is true that the parishes are perfectly tranquil, and that the only outrage committed there within the past twelve months was by an emergency man, who smashed with a hatchet the furniture of an evicted tenant, until deprived of his weapon by the Sheriff; and, whether, if extra police are to be quartered in the parishes of Holycross and Ballycahill, the cost of them is to be charged on the peaceful occupiers of that district?

MR. TREVELYAN: No outrages of importance have lately occurred in the parishes mentioned in this Question; but, owing to the intimidation prevailing, it has been necessary for the last 12 months to keep a protection party with caretakers on a property in the parish of Holycross. This duty has been performed by soldiers, who are now being relieved by the police. In the other parish mentioned—the parish of Ballycahill—there is no special protection given at present; but there are protection posts in the three surrounding parishes—namely, Holycross, Thurles, and Inch—and it has been considered right to include Ballycahill in the proclaimed district. The proportion of the cost of the extra Constabulary to be borne by the district will be a matter for the consideration of the Government.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)— CORONERS' SALARIES.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR (for Mr. HEALY) asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is a fact that all county officers except coroners are paid when their salaries are due; that the coroners' salaries are always six months in arrear; if this is because all salaries except the coroners' are presented for in advance; and, whether he is aware that the Act of last year, by abolishing fees and substituting a fixed salary, did away with the necessity of the Grand Jury waiting to see the amount to which the coroner is entitled half-yearly; and, if he will, therefore, give instructions that the coroners be put on the same footing in regard to the payment of salaries as the other county officers, by a presentment in advance?

MR. TREVELYAN: The salaries of county officers in the several counties in Ireland are presented for in advance,

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and, therefore, can be paid when they become due. In the county of Dublin, I understand, the Coroner's salary is presented for in this way, and there seems no reason why the same course should not be adopted in other counties. It is open to the Coroners to bring the matter under the notice of the several Grand Juries, who have power to deal with it.

SCIENCE AND ART—THE HAMILTON COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS.

SIR TREVOR LAWRENCE asked the Secretary to the Treasury, Whether the Hamilton MSS. were offered for sale to Her Majesty's Government; and, if so, whether there is any correspondence or other documents which can be laid upon the Table of the House showing what occurred; whether the German Government have offered to resell any portion of the MSS. to the Government of this Country; and, if so, whether the offer has been or is being considered; and, whether it is true that two MSS. in the collection, viz., an Illustrated Dante and an Illuminated Bible have been valued by experts at a sum representing a large proportion of the purchase-money paid by Germany for the whole Collection?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, neither the whole nor any portion of the Hamilton Collection of Manuscripts was offered for sale to the Trustees of the British Museum. The German Government has not made any offer to re-sell to the Trustees any portion of the Manuscripts, nor has any communication passed between it and the Trustees. With reference to the rumours referred to in the last part of the Question, I learn that the Trustees have no information of the price at which the two Manuscripts referred to have been valued.

SCOTLAND—CRIMINAL LAW—ADMI- NISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN FORFAR.

MR. J. W. BARCLAY asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been directed to a recent case where two boys charged with a petty offence of malicious mischief were taken a distance of over twenty miles for trial at Forfar, and, being there convicted and sentenced to six stripes with a birchen rod, were sent

to Perth, a further distance of twenty-five miles, for infliction of the punishment; and, whether simpler arrangements might not be made for the administration of justice?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, this Question had only been put down last night, and he had asked the Lord Advocate to inquire into it.

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR): The punishment of whipping is subject to strict regulations issued in 1862, under which it must be inflicted in prison in presence of the surgeon of the prison and of the keeper or Governor. The prison at Forfar was discontinued on the 15th of August last, under the Act of 1877; and the prison at Perth is now the prison for convicted Forfarshire prisoners, so that it was necessary to send the boys there. If the local authorities at Forfar had cells legalized for prisoners it would be proper that the punishment of whipping should be carried out there, and I would consider whether any alteration would be required upon the terms of the existing Rules in order to authorize this.

THE SASINE OFFICE FRAUDS (EDINBURGH).

MR. SEXTON asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Whether his attention has been drawn to the Report of the trial and conviction, on the 9th instant, of two clerks in the Sasine Office, Edinburgh, for fraud; whether the clerks so convicted were, along with the clerk, Bryce, whose name occurs repeatedly in the Report of the trial, the only clerks in the office implicated in the frauds; whether he can state what steps, if any, have been taken for the apprehension of Bryce; and, whether the loss arising from the fraud will fall upon the Exchequer, or who is responsible for it?

MR. COURTNEY: This painful matter has been for some time under my notice; and I consider it so serious that I have directed a special inquiry to be made into it on the spot. Pending the result of that inquiry, it would not be for the public advantage that I should express any opinion on the conduct of anyone besides the two persons convicted, and the man Bryce who has absconded. A warrant has been more than two months out for the arrest of Bryce. I am afraid that the burden of the sums

improperly paid will fall upon the Exchequer.

NAVAL DISCIPLINE ACT, 1866—CASE OF MR. BELAM.

MR. P. A. TAYLOR asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether it is true that, in the case of Mr. Belam, late Assistant Paymaster of Her Majesty's Ship "*Blanche*," who was sentenced by Court Martial to be dismissed his ship on 22nd December 1881, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have increased the punishment awarded by the Court Martial to that of dismissal from Her Majesty's Service, by ordering his name to be removed from the Navy List; whether such increase of sentence is contrary to Section 53, Sub-section 1, of the Naval Discipline Act of 1866; whether it was declared illegal in the case of Captain Coffin, R.N. v. Reg.; and, whether officers of the civilian branch of the Navy ranking with Lieutenants, although not entitled to half pay, are, for this reason, liable to removal from Her Majesty's Service, when, in the case of a Lieutenant, such removal would be inapplicable?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: It is not the case, as implied in my hon. Friend's Question, that the Board of Admiralty increased the punishment awarded by court martial to Mr. Belam, late Assistant Paymaster of the *Blanche*, for the offence for which he was tried. The Court sentenced him for that offence to be dismissed his ship. The Board of Admiralty found that this was only the last of a series of occasions, extending over some years, on which this officer's conduct had been the subject either of Courts of Inquiry or of complaints from his commanding officer; and, on a review of all the circumstances, they resolved that he could not be employed in Her Majesty's Service again. This decision was arrived at and put in force under the general powers of the Admiralty to remove the name of any officer from the list of Her Majesty's Navy. The case of Captain Coffin, alluded to by my hon. Friend, was altogether different. In that case, which occurred in 1878, the court martial imposed a punishment which it had no legal right to impose; the Admiralty interfered to correct the error; and the Judges, on appeal, reported against the whole proceeding.

NAVY—IRON-CLAD SHIPS—
REPAIRING.

SIR JOHN HAY asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, If he will state whether any change has been made in the programme for ironclad ship-building and repair since the last Return; if so, if he will state it, and also the names of the ironclad ships to be repaired at the Home Dockyards and at Malta respectively, with the dates at which they are likely to be out of hand?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: Sir, it would not be convenient to the House, nor would it be possible, without a very serious inroad on its time and practice, for me to give, in answer to this Question, full particulars of the prospect of the iron-clad shipbuilding programme of the year; and I would ask the right hon. and gallant Gentleman to wait until the Navy Estimates are moved, when there will be the usual opportunity of reviewing the matter. I may say, however, generally, that, although the Egyptian operations have necessarily caused some disturbance of our arrangements, the programme both for the building and the repair of iron-clad ships will, I believe, be fairly fulfilled, although there are a few instances of delay, chiefly on account of armament fittings. The ships belonging to the Mediterranean Squadron which require repair will have the work done in the Dockyard at Malta.

AFRICA (WEST COAST)—THE CONGO.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the Government can give any assurance that territorial changes which are said to be contemplated on the Congo river will leave unimpaired the freedom of Commercial intercourse which has hitherto existed between this Country and that part of Africa?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Her Majesty's Government are most desirous that there should be complete liberty of navigation and commerce on all the great rivers of Africa, and the matter is having their most careful consideration at the present time.

FRANCE AND PORTUGAL—COOLIES.

SIR JOHN KENNAWAY asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign

Affairs, Whether any information has been received respecting an agreement between the Governments of France and Portugal for procuring and conveying (so called) free labourers, to be shipped from the Portuguese Territory in East Africa to some of the French Islands; and, whether any communication has been made to the Governments of France or Portugal in regard to a traffic differing only in name from a revival of the slave trade?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: Communications have passed between Her Majesty's Government and those of France and Portugal respecting the recruitment of labour from Ibo, on the East Coast of Africa, to Mayotte, Nossi Bé, and Réunion; it being pointed out that such recruiting threatens a revival of the Slave Trade. The Portuguese Government have rejected a scheme for extending the emigration to Réunion; and with regard to Mayotte, and Nossi Bé, Her Majesty's Government are informed that instructions will be sent to the Mozambique authorities to give the scheme their most careful consideration, and not to put it into execution if they have reason to believe that it will give fresh impetus to the Slave Trade.

VACCINATION—ALLEGED DEATH OF
CHILDREN AT NORWICH FROM
EFFECTS OF OPERATION.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether his attention has been drawn to the statement by the inspectors, in the inquiry into the case of eight children attacked with erysipelatos disease after vaccination at Norwich, as to four of the cases which terminated fatally—

"We cannot divest our minds of the strong impression that the lymph used in vaccinating those children must have carried with it the elements of the disease which they subsequently developed;"

whether the public vaccinator had been recommended for award from the Parliamentary grant; whether Dr. Buchanan, the medical officer of the Local Government Board, in his memorandum charges the same vaccinator with using dirty or improperly cleansed instruments in the processes of vaccination during the years 1876 to 1880, and later; and, whether it is any excuse by law, in answer to fresh summonses to vaccinate,

for the parents of any of the children so attacked to urge their fear of similar risk to the survivors; if not, whether he proposes by legislation to relieve such parents from the compulsion at present existing?

MR. DODSON: My hon. and learned Friend asks me four Questions. As to the first Question, I must point out that the quoted words have reference, not to four of the cases, which terminated fatally as the Question implies, but to four cases vaccinated from one child, and of which two did not get erysipelas. As to the second Question, the public vaccinator was recommended for award from the Parliamentary grant in 1874, but not in 1876 or 1878, and he was again recommended in 1880; but the objectionable practice previously discovered by the Inspector appeared to have been then discontinued. As to the third Question, my answer is that, although Dr. Buchanan does charge Dr. Guy with using dirty instruments in 1876, he does not affirm that Dr. Guy did so at a later time. My answer to the fourth Question is that it is no legal defence to a summons under the Vaccination Acts for parents of children attacked with erysipelatous disease after vaccination, to urge their fear of similar risk to their other children; and I am not prepared to assent to the view that, because one child may have happened to suffer, owing to *mala praxis* or some accidental circumstance, all the other children should be deprived of the protection which vaccination affords. At the same time, I may add that it is open to the Justices in any such case to impose a nominal fine, or decline to make an order for the vaccination of the child; and I should hope that whenever any such case occurs it will be considerably and tenderly dealt with.

STATE OF IRELAND—INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, in view of recent occurrences in Dublin, and the character of speeches delivered by ex-suspects and others in different parts of Ireland, he will vigilantly watch and use efficient means and safeguards against the further tendency to and development of incitement to sedition and violence?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Executive Government in Ireland will continue to do its best to discharge its duty in the matter referred to by the hon. Member.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT—CLOONE, CO. LEITRIM.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether his attention has been called to the fact that persons living in the parish of Cloone, in the county of Leitrim, who desired to take the benefit of the Arrears Act, have to appear before the Investigator at Mohill, five miles from the village of Cloone, and eight or nine miles from the homes of many of the Cloone tenants; whether he is aware that there are several hundred applications from the parish of Cloone, nearly all from persons in a very poor condition in life; and, whether, under the circumstances, he will take steps to have these applications dealt with in the village of Cloone?

MR. TREVELYAN: The facts are correctly stated in the Question. The Commissioners hold sittings in as many places as possible, and, in the ordinary course of business, it is probable that the cases referred to would have been listed for investigation at Cloone; but in their anxiety to inquire into as many cases as possible before the end of this month—and I am glad to be able to say that they believe they will be able to inquire into all contested cases, with the exception of an extremely small and minute percentage—they have been obliged for the time to extend the area of the district where the inquiry is held. In the present case, the Land Commissioners do not think it a hardship that tenants should, under the circumstances, be obliged to travel five miles further than if the sitting had been fixed at Cloone.

EGYPT—ARABI PASHA.

LORD JOHN MANNERS asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If he can inform the House when the trial of Arabi Pasha will commence; and, whether Her Majesty's Government, having handed him over for trial to that of the Khedive, and interfered in the procedure of the Court, has incurred any pecuniary responsibility for his defence?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: We are not aware when the trial will commence, although we have received a good deal of information lately from Lord Dufferin regarding the trial itself. With regard to the second part of the Question, the answer is in the negative.

LAW AND JUSTICE—PETTY SESSIONAL COURTS.

MR. ARTHUR PEEL asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been directed to the suggestions of the Justices Clerks Society for the revision of the form of proceedings in Petty Sessional Courts under the Summary Jurisdiction Act; and, whether he can undertake to give effect to the same at an early date.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: A regrettable delay has arisen in this matter, owing to the departure for India of the gentlemen who originally drew up these injunctions. The Lord Chancellor has now issued instructions for the forms to be settled as soon as possible.

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881—FAIR RENTS (APPLICATIONS).

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Is it a fact that thirty-four applications to fix fair rents on the estate of Julius Casement, recorded previous to 12th November 1881, eleven on the estate of William C. Mann, twenty-two on the estate of John McMeekin, five on the estate of Robert William Newton, five on the estate of William Hutchison, five on the estate of Reverend Hall Stewart, seven on the estate of Jane Smith, making altogether ninety-six cases in county Derry, none of which have been yet listed for hearing, and that the tenants are still paying the old rents; if any and what steps are being taken to get these and other tenants the benefit of the Land Act; is he aware that in some instances cases have been heard and disposed of which were listed long after the 12th of November 1881, leaving other tenants whose applications were recorded previous thereto still unheard; and, if he will direct these cases to be at once listed for hearing?

MR. TREVELYAN: The first paragraph of the Question gives the number of applications with tolerable accuracy.

There were 400 applications lodged before the date mentioned, and all are sent for trial in the order of their receipt in the Land Commission Office. None lodged after have been tried, with the exception of two cases in which evictions had taken place, and which, according to the Commissioner's practice, were listed for hearing out of their regular course, so that the tenants might not, by being evicted, lose the benefit of the Land Law Act. A special Sub-Commission has been appointed for Londonderry, with a view of disposing, as rapidly as possible, of the large number of cases awaiting trial in that county.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—SUB-COMMISSIONERS, VALUATORS, &c.

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Land Commission proposes to dispense with the services of the Court Valuators at the expiry of the three months period for which they were engaged?

MR. TREVELYAN: In answer to my hon. Friend, I will state with brevity the course the Government propose to adopt, and their reasons for it. Towards the end of last summer a conviction, which began quite early in the year, that there was a block in the business of the Land Courts, had become quite universal, and all parties were agreed that a remedy for that block would have to be found—I think that is not a controverted statement—and that it was desirable such a remedy should be found. The Government, after taking the advice of the Land Commissioners, sanctioned the appointment of valuers, with a view to increasing despatch of business and diminishing the number of appeals. One valuer was attached to each Sub-Commission. To the best of the judgment which the Government can form, the Courts so re-constituted have, taking Ireland as a whole, given judgments of very much the same character as before the re-constitution of the Courts. ["Oh, oh!" from the Irish Benches.] I know that hon. Members opposite do not hold that opinion; but I am obliged to state the views of the Government. But the hopes of the Government as to the increase in the despatch of business, and the decrease in the number of appeals, have been disappointed. The number of decisions

has hardly shown any increase at all. The number of appeals, if anything, has shown the reverse of a decrease. Other means will, therefore, have to be sought to grapple with the great task that is still before the Commission. It has been determined to attach to each Court four lay Sub-Commissioners instead of two, so that one pair of Sub-Commissioners may be inspecting the farms, while the other pair is occupied in Court, and so on, turn and turn about. By this means the Government hope that the time of the legal Sub-Commissioner will be fully occupied, which was not the case before the recent appointment of valuers, and has not been the case since that appointment. They anticipate a very great acceleration in the number of cases decided; while the certainty that the lay Sub-Commissioners will have abundant time to spend on the inspection of the farms will give a confidence to both landlord and tenant, which they hope will largely diminish the number of appeals, though the Government think that that confidence had every reason to be given in the past. The Government believe that, in order to increase the rapidity of the working of the Land Act, public money cannot, than in this way, be more effectually and economically spent.

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON: May I ask the right hon. Gentleman, before he passes from this subject, whether it is the intention of the Commission to employ many of the present valuers as new Sub-Commissioners?

MR. TREVELYAN: The appointment of the valuers I may explain, as the House may be ignorant of the matter, lies entirely with the Land Commissioners. The appointment of Sub-Commissioners lies entirely with the Government, and it is for the Government to make appointments to the best of their judgment.

MR. GIBSON: May I ask the right hon. Gentleman, whether that is the statement he promised yesterday as to the decision of the Government, to be announced to-day, with regard to the continuance of the employment of the Court valuers; and, if so, whether he is in a position to give the House any information as to how far the Land Commissioners have presented their views in any official form whatever which can be laid before Parliament?

MR. TREVELYAN: It is extremely difficult to answer some of the Questions the right hon. and learned Gentleman puts to me; but I boldly say that I was anxious to present the Papers which the Commissioners, with their greater experience, and for reasons with which I sympathize, did not feel inclined to have presented. The Land Commissioners have objected hitherto—and I suppose will continue to object—to laying their reasons for recommending the appointment of valuers before the House. With regard to the change which the Government now propose, I may say this—that the Commissioners, though, perhaps, divided among themselves in their predilection for what they considered the best course, are unanimous in thinking that if the alteration is made the constitution of the Courts I have just mentioned to the House is a well-advised constitution.

MR. GIBSON: I again ask, is the statement just made by the right hon. Gentleman the "full and complete" statement we were told would be made to the House on this subject; and I desire to know have the Land Commissioners unanimously approved of the termination of the employment of Court official valuers next month; or is this the idea of the four lay Commissioners and the idea of the Irish Executive?

MR. TREVELYAN: The statement I have laid before the House contains the sum and substance of the reasons that have influenced the Government in making this change, and also the essential part of the change itself. If there is any particular point on which information is desired, I shall be glad to explain it. I have to state again that I will not assert that all the Land Commissioners prefer these Courts constituted as I have described; but what I do say is, that if this change is made it is a change which they all approve.

MR. GIBSON: One more Question, because this matter requires explanation. My Question was plain, and requires a categorical answer. Have the Land Commissioners approved of the change now proposed by the Irish Government?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have answered two or three times, and my intention is quite clear. I will not vouch for some of the Commissioners not preferring the present constitution of the Courts. I

have always endeavoured to be frank; and I thought that the House, when I made my statement, would gather that there are on the Land Commission gentlemen who prefer the present constitution.

MR. MACARTNEY: May I ask the right hon. Gentleman whether, by the appointment of these lay Commissioners they are merely to value, and not to sit in Court and hear evidence? I wish to ask whether the fact of a person being a valuer of experience, and much employed in valuing land, should be considered a disqualification for employment as Sub-Commissioners?

MR. TREVELYAN: I think the hon. Member is under a slight mistake as to the statement which I have made. Each pair of Sub-Commissioners will be alternately in Court, and engaged inspecting the fields. And the Government will endeavour to follow the example of my right hon. Friend the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) in attempting to obtain the services of gentlemen who are thoroughly acquainted with the value of land.

MR. MACARTNEY: May I ask, as this is a matter of importance, whether I understand the right hon. Gentleman in believing that all the Commissioners will hear evidence? The Question I wish to ask is, whether two Commissioners will remain in Court hearing cases, and the two other Commissioners, who do not hear, will go to value?

MR. TREVELYAN: The business, I take it, will be apportioned between the two pairs of lay Commissioners, and the same pair of lay Commissioners will inspect the farms and hear the evidence, just as was done before when there was only one pair of Sub-Commissioners. We hope this will enable the Sub-Commissioners to give a very much larger amount of time to valuing the land.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACTS—THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

SIR JAMES LAWRENCE asked Mr. Attorney General, Whether his attention has been drawn to letters which have appeared in the "Daily News" of Saturday last from electors of the School Board Division of Lambeth, complaining that they were refused admission to the polling station at 7.30 p.m. on the day of election; and, whether such exclu-

sion of electors from the polling station before 8 p.m. is legal?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES), in reply, said, that the letters in question stated that the poll at the election in Lambeth was closed before 8 o'clock, and, of course, it ought to have been open till that time. The Deputy Presiding Officer had communicated with the proper authorities, and stated that the poll was taken up to the statutory hour. It was reasonable to suppose that the conflict of statements arose from the fact that the door of the polling station was closed earlier than 8 o'clock. Very likely, if the polling station was full of persons wishing to vote, there would be a pressure of persons coming in, and it would be necessary to shut the door. If that was the case, and votes were received till 8, there would, in his (the Attorney General's) opinion, be no breach of the law.

AFRICA (EAST COAST)—TAJOURA BAY.

BARON HENRY DE WORMS asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether, in view of his statement that Her Majesty's Government entertain no doubt that Tajoura Bay is part of Egypt, under the Rule of the Khedive and the Suzerainty of the Sultan of Turkey, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to oppose any cession of Tajoura Bay to France by the Sultan of Laita?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The Question put by the hon. Member is a hypothetical one. Should the case arise, the matter will be dealt with by Her Majesty's Government; but we are not aware that it has arisen.

EGYPT—SULTAN PASHA.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether it is true, as publicly stated, that one of the first acts of the Khedive's Government, on their return to Cairo, was to pay Sultan Pasha £10,000 out of the public chest; whether Her Majesty's Government know for what services this sum was paid; whether this is the same Sultan Pasha who has been accused publicly of having caused the Mudir of Miniek to receive eight hundred blows of the courbash on account of a private grudge; and, whe-

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ther this is the same Sultan Pasha who has recently been made a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: By a decree of the Khedive, dated the 4th of October, the sum of £10,000 was granted to Sultan Pasha. This sum is stated to have been in part an indemnity for losses. We know nothing of the matter referred to in the third part of the hon. Baronet's Question. The conduct of Sultan Pasha, as President of the Chamber of Notables, in standing out with courage against military violence, has been much admired in this country, not only by Her Majesty's Government, but by the hon. Baronet himself. He was of great service to Her Majesty's Forces during the military operations, and after their conclusion was made an Honorary Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

MR. O'DONNELL asked the hon. Baronet whether the Egyptian Assembly of Notables would be asked to confirm this grant of £10,000 out of the Egyptian taxes?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The grant was not made at the suggestion of Her Majesty's Government, and we were not consulted in the matter.

THE ROYAL IRISH CONSTABULARY— THE SPECIAL GRANT.

MR. M'COAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, When the Report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the alleged grievances of the Royal Irish Constabulary will be communicated to the House; and, whether the whole of the grant recently voted for distribution amongst the Force has been so applied?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Report of the Commission referred to in this Question has not yet been received by the Government. I cannot say whether it will be presented to Parliament. The gratuity, roughly estimated at £180,000, has been distributed among the Force on the terms approved by the Irish Government and the Treasury, with the exception of a few outstanding claims. As the known expenditure amounts to little over £160,000, the amount necessary to meet the claims would appear to have been over-estimated.

ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

LORD BURGHLEY asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether the statement of the Earl of Morley, at the dinner to the Medical Staff upon the 21st November, is well founded, that the Committee now sitting upon the medical arrangements of the Army is not appointed to inquire into the alleged defective condition of the Department during the Egyptian War?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER (for Mr. CHILDERS): The observations of my noble Friend the Under Secretary of State for War must, I think, have been misinterpreted; and it would be more satisfactory to the House to have the exact terms of the Reference to the Committee now sitting. At the War Office the following are the instructions from the Secretary of State:—

"It will be advisable that the Committee appointed to inquire into the organizations of Army Hospital Corps should extend the scope of its inquiry into the question of hospital management and nursing in the field, as well as the sea transport of sick and wounded. The recent experience in the Egyptian campaign will be most valuable in such an inquiry. The Committee should ascertain what deficiencies, if any, existed in the field, or other hospitals, or hospital ships in that campaign with a view to future remedy?"

LORD BURGHLEY asked when it was likely that the Report would be laid before the House?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER replied that the Report was not yet completed; but that great efforts would be made to complete it by next Session.

NAVY—THE DEPOT SHIP AT PORTSMOUTH.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether the Depot Ship at Portsmouth will, in three years, be unfit for service; and, whether, meanwhile, provision will be made by the erection of Naval Barracks; and, if not, if he can state the reasons for which Her Majesty's Government have relinquished the intention of erecting the Naval Barracks, of which the foundations had been begun?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: It is hard to say when the Depot Ship at Portsmouth will become unfit for service, and I should be sorry to accept the time named by the hon. Member. As to the erection of barracks, it is not in-

tended to proceed with it until we have seen whether the Naval Barracks now under construction at Devonport succeed. There is also some doubt as to the suitability of the site on which the commencement of a building had been made at Portsmouth.

ARMY—H.S.H. THE DUKE OF TECK.

MR. LABOUCHERE asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Whether any emolument is attached to the rank of Colonel, which Her Majesty has granted to His Serene Highness the Duke of Teck?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: No pay is provided by the Regulations for a Colonel in the Army who holds no other commission. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland and His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany are, like His Serene Highness the Duke of Teck, Colonels in the Army, but do not receive pay. There is, in fact, no pay attached to the rank of Colonel as such.

INDIA—CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (INDIA) ACT—COURTS OF JUSTICE (MADRAS).

MR. O'DONNELL asked the Secretary of State for India, If his attention has been called to the fact that when the Native assessors at the trial of the Hindu prisoners accused of complicity in the Salem riots refused to find the prisoners guilty on the ground of the insufficiency of the evidence, they were denounced in open Court by the European Judge, Mr. Wigram, as having given "a perverse verdict," which "convinced him that they cannot have conscientiously considered the evidence;" whether the Native assessors to courts of justice in India, who are appointed under the Criminal Procedure Act to give their opinion to the court upon such evidence as may be produced at a trial before them, are liable under any law to have opinions thus given in the discharge of their official functions controverted by the presiding judge; and, what steps the Government intend to take to protect Native assessors in the discharge of their legal functions; and also, whether the attention of the noble Marquess has been called to the fact that the presiding judge, Mr. Wigram, before proceeding, on his sole responsibility, and without any jury, to sentence a number of Hindu prisoners in the foregoing case to various

terms of penal servitude for life, and for long terms of years, made the following explanatory statement of his reasons for passing such severe sentences:—

"The sentences I am about to pass may appear severe, but I shall append to my judgment a recommendation that, should the feud between the Hindus and Mohammedans be buried for ever, and should Salem again assume its prosperous and peaceful condition, the Government should, after two years, revise the sentences as to them may seem fit;"

under what Law was Mr. Justice Wigram empowered to make the subsequent conduct of persons out of doors a ground for diminishing or increasing the punishment of sentenced prisoners; and, if such a Law exists, whether he will undertake to propose its repeal?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: In reply to these two Questions I think that I have already said that I have no information except from newspaper reports. I find that the prisoners referred to have appealed to the High Court at Madras, where their appeal is now pending; and, under these circumstances, I think it would be undesirable to enter into any discussion on the points raised.

MR. O'DONNELL asked whether it was only Indian prisoners who could be sentenced to penal servitude for life without the intervention of a jury; and whether it was the fact that in the case of European prisoners no such power was vested in a single Judge; and, whether, if such were the case, the noble Marquess would propose to repeal a law which inflicted such gross inequality of treatment between different subjects of the Crown?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, he could not answer the Question without Notice.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—
COURT VALUERS.

MR. GIBSON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the memorandum of the Irish Land Commission, dated 28th August, recommending the appointment of Court Official Valuers was communicated officially to the Irish Executive, and contained the well considered views of all the Commissioners in favour of the proposal; whether he received a deputation in Dublin which publicly gave some views opposed to these appointments, and the First Lord of the Treasury lately

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laid upon the Table a memorial of the same purport; and, whether, under these circumstances, it is desirable to keep secret the memorandum which caused and justified the appointments?

MR. TREVELYAN: The recommendation of the Land Commissioners referred to in this Question is an official communication from one Government Department to another, and quite fulfils the conditions referred to by the right hon. and learned Member. As I have already explained, the Land Commissioners unanimously object to its being presented. I have recognized the truth of the facts stated by the right hon. and learned Gentleman; but I cannot see any point in this Question which should induce me to depart from the answer on the matter which I have already communicated to the House.

MR. GIBSON asked whether the right hon. Gentleman considered the Irish Court of Land Commission to be a Government Department?

MR. TREVELYAN: Inasmuch as it makes recommendations by letter on questions which we may call administrative, it may be called a Government Department. But inasmuch as it gives judgment, I have always endeavoured, though under great difficulty, considering the nature of the Questions to which I am subjected in this House, to protest against its having any connection with the Government whatsoever.

ARMY—THE 2ND BATTALION STAFF- FORDSHIRE RANGERS.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office, If an application from the Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion Staffordshire Rangers, for an Officer of Royal Marines to succeed to the vacant Adjutancy caused by the death of the late Captain and Adjutant Luxmoore, R.M.L.I., has been refused: and, if so, the reason for such refusal?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: No application was received from the officer commanding the 2nd Battalion Staffordshire Rangers for an Adjutant from the Royal Marines. An officer from the territorial regiment has been selected for the appointment.

MALTA.

MR. MAC IVER asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, If

any reply has been sent to a letter, dated 26th ult., written by the Honourable Salvatore Cachia Zammit (an elected Member of the Malta Council of Government) concerning some pending questions; whether he is aware that tomorrow is the day fixed for the opening of the Malta Session, and that the proceedings of the Council are not unlikely to be largely influenced by the view taken by Her Majesty's Government with regard to these questions; if he is aware that considerable dissatisfaction exists; whether any steps can be taken to restore to the Maltese people some control over their own local affairs; and, if there is any objection to lay a Copy of the Correspondence with Mr. Cachia Zammit upon the Table of the House?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: There is no objection to lay on the Table Mr. Zammit's letter with the Secretary of State's reply. I do not think it probable that the Malta Council will meet as soon as the hon. Member seems to think, as five of the unofficial Members have just resigned their seats on account of the election of a pauper by the inhabitants of Gozo to a seat at the Council Board. There has been considerable dissatisfaction expressed by two opposite parties—namely, by those who think the Government have done too much, and also by those who think they have done too little in the way of improvement and reform. There has been every desire to regard the wishes of the Maltese people in respect of local affairs; and it is only in cases where it has been thought that Imperial interests were involved that the votes of the elected Members have been overruled by the official majority.

MR. MAC IVER inquired whether the dissatisfaction had found expression in the Correspondence to which reference had been made?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY replied that, upon that point, the hon. Member must draw his own deductions.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES (ANIMALS) ACTS — FOOT- AND- MOUTH DISEASE.

SIR TREVOR LAWRENCE asked the Vice President of the Council, How many outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease have taken place since the Return published in the "Gazette" of Tuesday 22nd instant, and in what counties they have occurred?

MR. MUNDELLA: There was no *Gazette* Return of foot-and-mouth disease on the 22nd of November; but since the Return of the 24th instant, which included all outbreaks up to the 18th, there have been 103 fresh outbreaks, including to-day's Return. Fifty-six of these have been in the county of Norfolk, nine in Essex, and seven in Suffolk. The remaining 31 have been spread over 15 counties, of which Surrey is one with two outbreaks. We have passed an Order restricting the sales of store stock in the counties of Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk, from the 10th of December, and we purpose to add to the list from time to time any districts that may become seriously affected. I can assure the hon. Member and the House that the Veterinary Department is exercising the greatest vigilance and vigour in dealing with the recent outbreak of disease.

SCOTLAND—THE GENERAL POLICE BILL.

DR. CAMERON asked the Lord Advocate, Whether he will remove some uncertainty which exists respecting the scope of the General Police Bill for Scotland, proposed to be introduced next Session, by stating whether the legislation contemplated is intended to apply to large towns as well as police burghs?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR): The legislation contemplated is intended to apply to large towns as well as police burghs.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON TECH- NICAL INSTRUCTION.

MR. W. H. SMITH asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether Her Majesty's Government have taken into consideration the evidence given before the Royal Commission for the Advance of Technical Education, with a view to utilizing the information gained on the Continent for the amelioration of the condition of the population of the West and the North West of Ireland, by providing technical instruction in industries suited to the condition of the people?

MR. MUNDELLA: Perhaps the right hon. Gentleman will allow me to answer the Question. The evidence before the Royal Commission on Technical Instruction is not yet

complete, and none has yet been presented. The Chairman, Mr. Samuelson, and Mr. Magnus visited Ireland last September for the purpose of placing the Commission in communication with persons in a position to give information on the best means of introducing domestic industries into the West of Ireland; and they have issued a series of questions which are now in circulation, and to which some replies containing valuable information have already been received. Mr. Woodall and the Secretary, Mr. Redgrave, undertook a journey through the Black Forest and Thuringia in order to inspect the home industries carried on there. A Report on their visit is now being prepared by them for the information of the Commission. The Commissioners are now in Belgium, and some of them will proceed to Holland. They are including domestic industries in their inquiry in those countries. I understand it is probable that they may make a special Report on this part of the subject, apart from their general Report.

EGYPT (MILITARY EXPEDITION)— THE COST OF THE WAR.

COLONEL STANLEY asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, If he can inform the House of the probable cost of the recent Naval and Military operations in Egypt; and, whether it will be necessary to submit Supplementary Estimates for Army and Navy Services during the current financial year?

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER (MR. GLADSTONE): I will answer the first and second parts of the right hon. and gallant Gentleman's Question before coming to the figures. There is no doubt that it will be necessary to ask the House for Votes on Account of the Army and Navy; but whether, and how far, they will be Supplementary Estimates, or whether they will be in the shape of a further Vote of Credit, is a question which for the present we shall reserve. The figures are simply these. The House will remember that the original Estimates were—For the War Office, £900,000; and for the Admiralty, £1,400,000; making a total of £2,300,000. The Supplementary Estimate up to the 1st of October—the epoch at which the War charge, properly so-called, accrued to the Exchequer of this country, apart from the question

of contribution from Egypt—will be £750,000 for the War Office, and £310,000 for the Admiralty, making together £1,060,000. Putting together these two sums, already authorized and estimated to be required down to the 1st of October the total charge borne, and to be borne, by the British Exchequer, is £3,360,000. Then there is the Indian Contingent, which was originally estimated in India at £1,880,000. The expenses of that Contingent have been very considerably less—namely, £1,140,000. But I ought to state that the original Estimate included a sum of which we are not precisely informed, but it would not be very large—not more than a fraction of the whole—for the difference in the ordinary pay of the men sent from India. The actual charge borne out of the Indian Revenues in the first instance is £1,140,000, making a total charge for the operations of the war, including the transport of the men, of £4,500,000. I have only two other points to mention. One is that the extra charge from the 1st of October is one which we have reason to expect will be borne entirely, or almost so, by the Egyptian Revenues. It will not be a large charge for the current financial year. It may have to be voted by this House in the first instance; but, if so, when the Vote is asked for, a full statement will be made as to the arrangements for repayment. The other point is, that I have spoken of these payments without any reference to the final repartition of the charge between England and India, which is a matter that is under the consideration of the Government; and, when they have had the proper communication, they will make known their views and their proposals to the House.

Subsequently,

MR. ONSLOW asked whether the statement which the right hon. Gentleman had made included the ordinary pay of the troops only, or the extra pay and allowances also? He also wished to ask the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for India whether, as four months had passed since the subject first came before the House, he could not, before the end of the Session, present a statement to the House of the whole details connected with that transaction? He asked the noble Marquess whether he

could give Papers as to the first communications between the Home Government and India on the subject?

MR. GLADSTONE: That part of the Question which belongs to the province of my noble Friend I must leave to him. With respect to the sum which I mentioned in answer to the right hon. and gallant Gentleman, the hon. Member asked me whether it includes the ordinary pay only, or likewise the extra pay and allowances? The ordinary pay, I thought I stated before, is not included either in the case of India or this country. All that is included and has been sent to us at the Treasury are the special allowances in connection with the war, and the whole extra charge connected with the war.

EGYPT (ARABI PASHA)—MR. WILFRID BLUNT.

LORD ELCHO asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether his attention has been drawn to Mr. Wilfrid Blunt's recent letter to the "Times" newspaper, and, whether, having regard to the replies given by the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to questions relating to the trial of Arabi Pasha and the employment of counsel in his defence, he intends to allow the costs of such trial to be defrayed by a private individual; or, whether, seeing that the Government have stated that they had "secured" for the prisoners, who surrendered to our troops, "the benefit of counsel and publicity of trial," he will undertake to defray, out of public funds, the costs already paid by Mr. Blunt from his private purse, and such further expenditure as may be necessary to insure a full and fair trial of the accused?

MR. GLADSTONE: On this subject I have to make a very brief reply. Her Majesty's Government have not in any way entered into or been responsible for, nor do they intend to make themselves responsible for, any of the proceedings of Mr. Blunt in regard to Egyptian affairs and the operations in Egypt, and they have no intention to defray any part of the expenses of the proceedings taken for the defence of Arabi, and those who, in common with him, are arraigned in Egypt, either for an act of rebellion or otherwise.

SCOTLAND—CROFTERS—A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, If he can now state whether it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into and report upon the causes which have led to disturbances in Skye, and serious agitation in Caithness and other parts of Scotland; and, whether, in the event of Her Majesty's Government having decided against the appointment of a Commission, he will, before the House rises, give a day for the discussion of the question? The hon. Member further asked whether the attention of the Prime Minister had been called to the reports in the newspapers of a very serious state of affairs existing between the tenant farmers in Caithness and the proprietors? The right hon. Gentleman might not, he added, be aware from the newspapers that there was likely to be a very serious difficulty. In asking the Question he apologized for any appearance of importunity on the ground of the extreme urgency of the case.

MR. GLADSTONE: With regard to the state of affairs in Caithness, I, like the hon. Member, have seen a statement in the newspapers which indicates differences between a Caithness proprietor and his tenants; but I am in no condition to give any official information, nor is it likely we should have under the circumstances; nor am I in a condition to give an opinion on the subject, except this—that I think both in Caithness and Skye, from whence we hear reports of a different kind tending towards popular commotion, that matters are in such a state as to render it peculiarly incumbent on the Government to consider very carefully what course it may be proper to take, in order to avoid any steps which might possibly lead to inconvenient consequences. The hon. Member will recollect that the difficulty in Skye at the present moment occurs under these circumstances—that there are legal rights in contest between one and more proprietors and a number of tenants, that the natural course would be that these rights should be ascertained; but that at present there is an appearance of resistance to the first step towards ascertaining—namely, the service of writs, or whatever the proper

name may be for that step in Scotland. With regard to the appointment of a Commission, the hon. Member will recollect that there was an opportunity for full discussion of this matter in the summer, when my right hon. and learned Friend the Lord Advocate stated, on the part of the Government, the reasons which led them to believe that it would not be wise to issue a Royal Commission on the subject. On the facts placed before them, Her Majesty's Government cannot see in anything any reason for departing from that determination. Of course, if we are in that state of mind, it almost follows that I must answer the latter part of the hon. Gentleman's Question in the negative, and say that we are not prepared before the House rises to give a day for the discussion of this subject. With regard to any apparent importunity on the part of the hon. Gentleman, I beg him to believe that nothing could be further from my intention than to make any charge against him on that subject. I am sure he does it from an earnest and philanthropic interest in the matter.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the Prime Minister, if he could not give a day, whether he would use his influence with a distinguished Member who sat behind the Government to remove the block on the subject from the Paper, and he (Mr. Macfarlane) would do the rest himself?

MR. GLADSTONE said, he could not undertake to interfere with the course any hon. Member proposed to take. It would be setting an awkward precedent.

DR. CAMERON asked the Lord Advocate whether he had received any confirmation of the statement that the dispute in the Braes district had been settled?

THE LORD ADVOCATE (MR. J. B. BALFOUR): I have not received any information of a definite settlement; but I received information last night that there was a probability of its being settled—that negotiations were in progress which, it was thought, would result in a settlement.

PARLIAMENT—PRIVILEGE (MR. EDMOND DWYER GRAY, M.P.).

MR. JOSEPH COWEN asked the First Lord of the Treasury, If he will afford facilities, before the Session ends, for the discussion of a Motion standing on the Order Book in the name of the

honourable Member for Sligo, arising out of the Report and Proceedings of the Select Committee on Privilege in the case of Mr. E. D. Gray?

MR. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, he saw no call upon them to make any special arrangements, and no special advantage in raising this question at the present moment. He did not recognize in it any character of urgency which would make it necessary to be discussed at the present time, as compared with a period at the commencement of the next Session, when hon. Gentlemen would have their own opportunities in the regular course of Business. He did not wish to appear discourteous to the hon. Members opposite; but he would say that it was a very difficult matter for him to interfere with this proceeding of individual Members; and if he was asked in one instance to use influence to induce a particular Member to take a particular course, he felt it would be introducing an awkward precedent, because he did not feel that he was entitled to interfere in that way. He was by no means sure that discussion of this subject was desirable; because, what he wished to signify was that it was the duty of the Government to see to the proper execution of the law, and he did not at all feel that their taking this step at the present time would tend to promote that object.

EGYPT—MURDER OF PROFESSOR PALMER AND PARTY.

MR. GLADSTONE: I wish to redeem a pledge I gave to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Westminster (Mr. W. H. Smith) on the subject of the inquests, so called, on the murderers of Professor Palmer and his coadjutors. We have a telegram to-day, from which we are led to expect that on or before Christmas the whole of those concerned—no doubt a considerable number, between 20 and 30—will be brought to Suez, and together with them another number of persons who are competent to give evidence in the case.

MR. W. H. SMITH: There is no reason to doubt that the guilty persons will be fully and properly punished?

MR. GLADSTONE: We have no reason to doubt it. The expectation held out to us is a confident expectation. There is no reason whatever to doubt it.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN: Is there any information as to the servant of Captain

Gill? He had a servant, who has been missing and not accounted for.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: According to the best information we have, the Native servant of Captain Gill was included among those who were killed.

EGYPT (MILITARY EXPEDITION) — ROYAL MARINES AND MARINE ARTILLERY.

MR. GORST asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether a battalion of 900 Royal Marines and Marine Artillery, under the command of a Lieutenant Colonel of Marines, was landed in July last at Alexandria from Her Majesty's Troopship "Tamar," but was not placed under the Army Regulation Act for some days; whether during this period the Naval officer commanding the "Tamar" had to go ashore daily to dispose of defaulters and prisoners in the battalion, although he was of standing junior to the Marine officer commanding the battalion; and, whether such change will be made in the status of the officers of Royal Marines as will prevent such an occurrence for the future?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: The Marines who were landed from the *Tamar* were not placed under the Army Act owing to express orders to that effect from the Board of Admiralty, the reason being that it was not at that time probable that they would permanently form part of the military force at Alexandria. As soon as they became incorporated in the military force, they were made subject to the Army Act for purposes of discipline. Until this was done, they were, no doubt, while on shore at Alexandria, in a somewhat anomalous position, though I cannot without inquiry say whether the facts were precisely as stated in the hon. and learned Member's Question. The anomalies which arise in such circumstances, and in certain other cases, have for some time been under the consideration of the Board of Admiralty, and we will see whether any modification of existing arrangements is necessary.

CRIME (IRELAND)—THE RECENT MURDERS IN DUBLIN.

MR. GOSCHEN: I wish to ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant

of Ireland whether he could give the House any additional information with respect to the deplorable occurrences in Dublin yesterday; whether any further arrests have been made; and, whether the Government would consider it necessary to take measures for the protection of jurymen in the exercise of their functions? I am sure it would interest the House to know whether any arrests have been made in connection with the occurrences that have taken place.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT: Before the right hon. Gentleman answers the Question, I should like to ask whether the attention of the Government has been called to the language used by Michael Davitt in his speech at Navan, which language is of a most inflammatory character? At the meeting there were two Members of Parliament present—the hon. Members for Westmeath and for Meath; and I should like to know what steps the Government intend to take in this matter?

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: Mr. Speaker, I would ask you, Sir, as a matter of Order, whether the hon. and gallant Baronet has a right to use argumentative phrases, such as that "language was of a most inflammatory character," in place of submitting to the judgment of the House the exact words of which he complains?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. and gallant Baronet appears to me to have applied an epithet that is open to controversy.

MR. TREVELYAN: With regard to the speech of Mr. Davitt, the questions of the action of the Irish Government with reference to speeches and articles are questions which involve very careful and long consideration, and afterwards communications, sometimes protracted, between Members of the Government. I answered the hon. and gallant Baronet yesterday that a speech, which had been made some time before that, was under consideration, and he was satisfied with the answer. I need not say with regard to Michael Davitt's speech, that it is yet under consideration, because Business has been so pressing during the last few days in the Irish Office in London, and in the Irish Office in Dublin, that nothing official has passed yet on the subject of that speech. With regard to the question whether any arrests have been made, I imagine that none have been

made, because I telegraphed early in the day to have any information on that point sent to me, and because I have spent a considerable time with Mr. Jenkinson—a very active officer—and he had not, up to that time, heard of any arrests. With regard to the Question of my right hon. Friend, that matter has certainly occupied the attention of the Government, and has occupied it very promptly; and communications of great importance with regard to the means of preserving the peace in Dublin have been passing to-day, and will probably bear some fruit. The only telegram of interest I have to communicate to the House is with relation to the condition of Mr. Field. Dr. Kaye, Assistant Secretary, says—

"I have seen the two medical men in attendance on Mr. Field, who was so badly wounded, and they both say he has had a more favourable night than could be expected; but his state is most critical."

Then he goes on to give details as to the most dreadful wounds he received, and to make some remarks as to the nature of the attack upon him. I am not quite certain whether those details have got into the newspapers; and, if not, I am not quite certain whether I should be acting in the interests of protection from crime by communicating them to the House.

MR. CHAPLIN: Are the Government in a position to state how far they have reason to believe that the speech attributed to Mr. Davitt in this morning's papers has been correctly reported?

MR. TREVELYAN: There is a Question on that subject upon the Paper for to-morrow.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: Were any Government reporters present?

MR. TREVELYAN: I shall be ready to answer that Question to-morrow. I can hardly be blamed for not having the information now.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION— OFFICIAL VALUERS.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

MR. GIBSON: Sir, I respectfully ask the permission of the House to move its adjournment for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance—namely, the conduct of the Government in reference to the appointment of official valuers in Ireland.

Mr. Goschen

MR. SPEAKER: Is it your pleasure that Mr. Gibson be now heard?

And there being many voices for and against—

MR. SPEAKER: Is the right hon. Member supported by 40 Members?

Whereupon, a large number of Members—not less than 40—rising in their places—

MR. SPEAKER called upon the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin to proceed.

MR. GIBSON said, that he made no apology for pursuing the course which he had adopted in asking the attention of the House to a matter of grave and urgent public importance. He could not take so hopeful a view of the application of the New Rule as was taken by the Government, judging by the reception which he had received from Members opposite, when he was bringing forward a matter of urgent public importance. Many Members would have heard with surprise that evening—for no Notice had been given—the decision arrived at by the Government on the subject which he was bringing before the House. As the Government had occupied all the time of the House for the consideration of those Rules, unless he had adopted his present course he would have had no opportunity of bringing forward a discussion in which the Government would doubtless be glad to afford an explanation of the course which they had taken, and from which doubtless they would not shrink. The change announced that evening by the Chief Secretary for Ireland was one of great importance. But grave as it was, the reasons announced for the change were even more grave. The Government had resolved that the system of appointing Court valuers, who were to assist the Sub-Commissioners in the exercise of their judicial functions, should be superseded by a perfectly new system, not sanctioned or recommended by the Court which had to administer justice and which was largely influenced, or liable to be influenced, by political considerations. What were the facts of the case? On the 28th of August last, in what the Chief Secretary for Ireland described as a well-considered Memorandum, the Land Commissioners presented, as their deliberate opinion, that

it was desirable for the administration of justice that a system of efficient Court valuers should be established. Why was this done? They had been left strangely in the dark. He would like to know why the House, and those interested in this question, could not have the opportunity of reading the official documents of the Irish Land Commissioners, which revealed their views. Were the Government ashamed of those views, or were their reasons for not disclosing them so plain and strong that if the documents were laid upon the Table of the House they would convince the House that no change was desirable? They had a well-considered Report in which the Land Commissioners presented their views, and in which, so lately as October 3, the Irish Government and Her Majesty's Government expressed their views as to these appointments. The Lord Lieutenant had expressed his opinion of the change by stating that the Government had deliberately come to the conclusion that the present system would gain the confidence of both parties more effectually than the system which had previously existed. That was the opinion of the Government in October; but now the Government, keeping back from the House the well-considered opinion of the Irish Land Commission, came down to the House and cast to the winds, as totally unfounded, their own "deliberate opinion" as to the best mode of administering the Irish Land Act. What was the reason suggested for this change? On the 28th of August the Irish Land Commissioners recommended the appointment of official land valuers. That was assented to by the Government in the hope of lessening appeals, of advancing progress, and of obviating the complaints which were made of the decisions of the Land Commissioners, many of whom were accused of scampering over farms almost without looking at them, and not being capable of deciding on the matters submitted to them. One would think, considering the matter from an ordinary standpoint, that official Court valuers, appointed by the central authority, possessing the necessary technical knowledge and experience, would *prima facie* insure justice being effectually administered. The conclusion of the Government was arrived at after a twelve-months' experience of no Court valuers,

which showed that independent valuers could not be obtained inasmuch as the ordinary valuers were in the habit of giving evidence for the landlord and the tenant in turn. All the valuers were so open to the charge of prejudice and bias that it was thought better to have independent valuers appointed by the authorities—that was, valuers who would be independent of both parties, so that the Commissioners and Sub-Commissioners, when assisted by their evidence, would be in a better position to give judgment in favour of the one party or the other. But there was this vice, or, as he preferred to call it, infirmity, underlying the appointment of the Sub-Commissioners—the want of independent judgment; for it was impossible to expect an independent judgment from officials who were only appointed for one year. The superior Judges now held their offices during good behaviour, for the very purpose of giving them an independent position, and yet in the present instance the Government appointed persons to these judicial offices only for a period of 12 months, with all the risks and uncertainties of such a position, and without any sure prospect of re-appointment. In fact, the Solicitor General for Ireland had stated with unmistakable vehemence that if the Sub-Commissioners did not give satisfaction they would not be re-appointed. Such a position would make it impossible for them to act with independence. They should possess something like stability of office. If they decided cases in a particular way, and that way did not suit the Government, they would not be re-appointed. And now they found that *quasi*-judicial appointments were cut down to three months, for the official Court valuers were appointed for three months only with this pernicious result—that they were bound to conform to the wishes of the Government if they expected re-appointment; and yet those who were intrusted with the administration of the law had deliberately stated that that was the best way of administering justice. He had nothing to say against these men personally, and he would assume that they were men of character and position; but he maintained that the mere fact of their tenure of office not being fixed was a warning to them to please the powers that

were. He thought that a speech that was made upon the subject by the Chief Secretary for Ireland was one of the most unfortunate ever delivered by a man in his high position. He himself never arraigned anyone's speeches without being prepared to support his statements. He commented on the Chief Secretary's statements in a speech delivered by him in Manchester shortly afterwards, which was fully reported in the Irish newspapers. As the right hon. Gentleman had not endeavoured to displace what he (Mr. Gibson) stated on that occasion, he was glad to take the present opportunity of criticizing the right hon. Gentleman's speech. On the 3rd of October last, in the Chief Secretary's room at Dublin Castle, the right hon. Gentleman received a large deputation from the North of Ireland, which, as he himself pointed out, was a one-sided deputation, and contained no representatives of the Conservative or National Parties, or indeed of any other than the Party—the Liberal Party—from whom the Government expected to receive some practical assistance in Ireland. The speakers, all of whom were introduced to the right hon. Gentleman either as the actual pillars of the Liberal cause in Ireland, or as persons who had tried to be such pillars, had expressed the dissatisfaction of their constituents with the working of the system of Court valuers. What was the language of the right hon. Gentleman's reply? He said in effect that if there was any dissatisfaction felt as to the appointment of Court valuers for three months, the Government "would undo the mistake;" those were the words of the right hon. Gentleman; and he gave two illustrations—and only two—to show that the official Court valuers had valued lower than the Assistant Commissioners, and that therefore the alarm of the deputation was not well founded. The meaning of the right hon. Gentleman's speech was abundantly plain—that it was fair that the reduction should be on the same scale as that of the Assistant Commissioners, and that the Government would recognize the mistake they had made in the mode of appointing the Court valuers, and would undo that mistake. Such language as that held by the Chief Secretary for Ireland to his political partizans had never before been used by the responsible Executive

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Government in relation to the action of a Judicial Court. His exact words were—

“If the tenants feel that they have lost very decidedly by the change, the Government have quite sympathy enough with the tenants to feel that it has taken a step which is injurious to them.”

Was not the meaning of that language that the official Court valuers were appointed to do justice to one side only? If the official Court valuers were appointed to do impartial justice between all suitors, what did the language of the right hon. Gentleman mean? In plain English it meant that if the valuers dared to value higher than the Assistant Commissioners, even rightly, then, if the tenants were dissatisfied, the Government would sympathize with the tenants and get rid of the valuers. He ventured to think that never was more dangerous or insidious language employed. How could the valuers be expected, after that language, to act fairly when they thus received from those who employed them and paid them, and could dismiss them, notice to quit? Would the Executive Government in Ireland dare to communicate or use that language in any of the Queen's Courts in that country, or would the right hon. Gentleman dare to speak like that in the Court of Queen's Bench or the Court of Exchequer? Did not Parliament intend that the Courts of the Land Commission should be as independent as any of the other Courts in the land? Yet here was the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant taking upon himself to say that the Irish Executive would do all those things without the slightest reference to the Court which was bound in its conscience to be satisfied that justice was done. The right hon. Gentleman had admitted the accuracy of all the reports made of that speech, and of the astounding statement which he would just read to the House. The Chief Secretary, on the same occasion, said—

“For the essence—the cardinal point—of the Land Act is the personal inspection of the farms by a part of the tribunal.”

He (Mr. Gibson) had asserted before, and he would say again, that there was not a single syllable in the Land Act which justified such an assertion. In all the exhaustive speeches of the Prime Minister during the passage of the Land Act there was nothing to indicate any

intention that part of the tribunal should view the land. In face of the silence of the Prime Minister on that point and the absence of any such provision in the Land Act, the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary took upon himself to say that personal examination of the land by the tribunal was the essence, the vital point of the Act. The Land Commission was intended by Parliament to be independent of all other Courts, of the Government, and of parties; it was to be a Court of Justice for all suitors. He asked no preference for landlords; he sought no prejudice against tenants; but he did ask that fair and impartial justice that was intended by Parliament and insisted upon by the Prime Minister as the one justification of the Act. Yet now the independent Court of the Irish Land Commission was degraded into a Department of the Government. The Commission was not allowed to mould its own administration as it should think justice required, for they had heard from the Chief Secretary that its views were overborne by those of the Executive Government. The interview of the 3rd of October was one of the most remarkable incidents that had ever happened in the public life of Ireland—a deputation going to an Executive Minister of the Government to suggest how an Act of Parliament should be administered. The Minister accepted the position, and promised to vary that administration if it did not suit the views of his political friends. He (Mr. Gibson) challenged the right hon. Gentleman to say whether from the beginning to the end of his speech there was any suggestion that the Irish Land Commission would have even a consultative voice in the administration. That speech, supplemented by the statement made that day, placed the Irish Land Commission in a position equivocal, to say the least, if not absolutely contemptible. Although the Irish Land Act had vested the administration in them, the right hon. Gentleman had treated them as a mere branch of the Executive Government. He could not but think that some, at all events, of the Land Commissioners might have had the spirit and independence to protest against being treated as Government lackeys. The language of the Chief Secretary on that occasion was to the last degree unfortunate and to be deplored. He was quite confident if the

right hon. Gentleman had to deliver that speech again he would make a very different one, for it was open to great danger and criticism. If the right hon. Gentleman had the power to promise that the administration of the Land Act would be varied until it satisfied his political friends, might not this be used as a vast engine of gigantic political corruption? All through this Session Questions had been put to the Chief Secretary on this subject. He would show from his answers the halting and slow but resolute way by which the Government had been advancing to the startling decision by which they had that day surprised the House. On November 2nd the Chief Secretary was questioned in reference to this matter, and he (Mr. Gibson) in reading some quotations would show the House the deliberate, slow, and resolute way by which the Government advanced to the singular procedure by which to-day they surprised the whole House. On the 2nd of November the right hon. Gentleman said that the more he examined into the appointment of the valuers the more he was satisfied with them. He also said that he thought the Sub-Commissioners and the valuers were, as a class, men in whom landlord and tenant might repose confidence, and the examination of farms was being made with much more care than was formerly the case—one of the objects for which the official Court valuers were appointed, and one of the primary objects the Land Commission and the Government itself had in view. Therefore, at that time, they had it in the right hon. Gentleman's own words that the Court's functions were satisfactorily discharged by those whom he now sought to get rid of. On the 13th of November the right hon. Gentleman was pressed by an hon. Member from the North of Ireland as to whether, in consequence of the appointment of Judicial Court valuers, there had been any substantial number of withdrawals of tenants from the Land Court, indicating a want of confidence in them? The Chief Secretary for Ireland replied that the Land Commissioners stated that they were not aware of any withdrawals in consequence of the appointment of the valuers, except at Balbriggan. Up to that time there was no suggestion that these appointments had failed to satisfy the purpose for

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which they were made. On the 2nd of November the right hon. Gentleman said—"I cannot undertake to say what action the Government will take in December;" but at that period the Government had no reason to be dissatisfied. He (Mr. Gibson) would now ask when was the decision to change and vary this mode of administration arrived at? What was the opinion of the Land Commissioners themselves about this change? From whom did the proposal that there should be a change proceed—from the Land Commission or the Government? And was the correspondence on the subject official and written, or not? There should be no secrecy or hesitation about placing all the circumstances before Parliament. There were now four Land Commissioners—Mr. Justice O'Hagan, Mr. Litton, Mr. Vernon, and Viscount Monck—and they knew that the proposal which suggested the appointment of official Court valuers was the unanimous, well-considered decision of the Commissioners.

MR. TREVELYAN: May I be allowed to say that they agreed to it, and that it was the opinion of the Land Commission—I was not aware every one of the Commissioners considered it advisable.

MR. GIBSON contended that, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, he was entitled to assume that the four Commissioners were in favour of it, and the Prime Minister on the 27th October said just as much. He (Mr. Gibson) asserted that the Government were now proceeding against the opinions of the Commissioners. He insisted that the Commissioners were opposed to the change. What justification was there for the case? The right hon. Gentleman had not said that the Court valuers did not value fairly, and did not give satisfaction to their employers. There was no complaint from any Sub-Commission for whom they had valued, and there was no suggestion that the Land Commission had had any occasion to reprove a single one of these valuers. Therefore, the Government were not getting rid of them for valuing unfairly or for fixing unjust rents. They were getting rid of them to silence the clamour of some of their political friends; and they had not one solitary official sentence to support them in their action,

nor one Return to justify the change. On the contrary, they had the distinct assurance of the Chief Secretary that the examination of the land had been better conducted after the appointment of the official Court valuers than before. The Chief Secretary said he would not vouch that some of the Land Commissioners were not opposed to the Government plan. The House had a right to a full and frank statement from the right hon. Gentleman as to who were the "some." There should be no secrecy between the Government and Parliament, unless something of which the Government was ashamed would leak out. The Land Commission did not concur in the proposal of the Government, nor desire that the Court valuers should be given up. Did the proposal come from the valuers? Did the proposal come from the Government? If it did, what was the result? That the Executive had deliberately interfered with the administration of justice by what should be an independent Court. The change was not made at the request of the Land Commission, nor at the instance of the Court valuers. Was it made in consequence of clamour and agitation? The House was entitled to a clear explanation on that point. By making this change the Government, he assumed, would very nearly double the expense of the administration of the Land Act. It was now proposed to increase the Sub-Commissioners from three to five. What was to be the salary of the new Sub-Commissioners, and what their tenure of office? Were they also to be appointed to a three months' job, so that, in case of renewed clamour, they might be sent about their business? He was glad that the right hon. Gentleman had, before the close of the Session, an opportunity of explaining both his speech in Dublin and still more fully the change which he had announced in the administration of the Land Act. He did not desire that a single benefit conferred upon the tenants by the Act should be recalled, qualified, or lessened, nor did he seek for a single undue advantage to the landlord. He had never sought since the Act became law to interfere with its fair administration, nor had he any other desire than that all parties should get fair play. But in the name of law let not the Act be administered as if it were an Act to set class against class; in the name of fair

play let it not be administered as a political weapon; but let it be administered as a great Statute ought to be administered, with impartial justice, which, in the words of the Prime Minister, must mean in its highest, best, and worthiest sense, "justice to all."

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House do now adjourn."—*(Mr. Gibson.)*

MR. W. E. FORSTER said, he had no doubt his right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland would be anxious to answer what he might call the personal part of the right hon. and learned Gentleman's speech; but he thought the House would allow him as early as possible to state what in his experience he happened to know about the Land Commission. The right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite had one very strong objection to the change in policy and another to the speech made by his right hon. Friend. Now, he would like to say a word about that speech. He had read it with a great deal of interest, and in doing so he came to two conclusions. The first was that his right hon. Friend simply meant to give this impression, that if in details the Act worked unjustly it should be remedied. The other conclusion he had come to was that if his right hon. Friend had had as much experience as he himself unfortunately had, if he knew how every word was open to misrepresentation on one side and the other, he would have never uttered words for which he should probably repent. But the really important matter was whether it was desirable to make this change, and whether Government were to be blamed for making it. The question came before Lord Cowper and himself, and he supposed very much upon the ground on which it came before his right hon. Friend and Lord Spencer—namely, that it was desirable to quicken the operations of the Court. At first, he was of opinion that the appointment of official valuers was desirable; but, on further consideration, he came to the conclusion that that change ought not to be made for two or three reasons. In the first place, a very important fact came to their knowledge, which he had overlooked until he was reminded of it, and he very much doubted whether his right hon. Friend bore it in mind until it was recalled to

his recollection, and that was that in the very long debates on the Land Bill this question was brought forward, and it was unanimously decided by the House that the Act should not be administered in that way. Hon. Members, if they referred to *Hansard*, would find that on July 15 of last year the hon. Member for Surrey (Mr. Brodrick) proposed, when they came to the clause for the appointment of Sub-Commissioners, to add that the Lord Lieutenant might from time to time, with the consent of the Treasury, appoint "valuers of knowledge and experience in the value of land," on the ground that it would be impossible to leave to a local valuer the sole adjudication in these matters. The Prime Minister, in reply, said—

"Undoubtedly a knowledge of the value of land will be one of the qualifications of some portion at least of the Assistant Commissioners; but these words, if added to the Bill, would lead to the conclusion that it was intended to employ a staff of official valuers and nothing else. I very much doubt whether official valuers appointed by Government would attract confidence to themselves. I think it a very doubtful experiment."

The discussion went on for some time, and at last the Amendment was withdrawn. [Mr. GIBSON: That was as to the appointment by the Lord Lieutenant.] Well, we reconsidered the question, and we thought that was a mere technical point, and that it was quite clear that the question before the House was whether the Sub-Commissions should have the assistance of official valuers. It was quite possible to wriggle out of the decision come to by the House by taking another clause of the Act, which said that the Land Commission might from time to time appoint and remove solicitors, secretaries, and such officers as agents, clerks, managers, as they thought fit. Lord Cowper and himself came, however, to the conclusion that they would not fairly interpret the decision of the House if they did that.

MR. GIBSON said, the law enabled them to be appointed.

MR. W. E. FORSTER said, he was willing to admit that; but, at the same time, he did not think that the administrators of the law ought to take advantage of one clause to defeat the evident intention of the House on another matter. He did not know what had led to the change of mind in the present Irish

Government; but, upon full consideration, he did not think the change would answer. He would not deny that it was open to very considerable debate whether in the original framework and machinery of the Act there might not have been advantages in attaching to the legal Sub-Commissioner a valuer instead of a lay Sub-Commissioner. But he felt that the attaching of an official valuer to every Sub-Commission Court would be likely to lead to no saving of time, and might produce want of harmony. Again, his belief was that the present Sub-Commissioners, generally speaking, by their antecedents, and certainly by the knowledge they had gained during their time of office, were good valuers, and probably better than would otherwise be likely to be obtained. He was glad that the change had not been persevered in, and that the Government had adopted their present course. It would cost more money; but the Treasury were generally very cautious in checking expenditure, and he thought the expenditure would be wise, and that the work would be done quicker. He could not help thinking that there was too much heat introduced into this matter on both sides, for the decisions were very much the same, and neither side had a right to suppose that the valuers would do them much good or much harm. The decisions had been curiously alike, and had proved to him that the facts in those matters were so evident that it was very difficult for reasonable men not to come generally to the same conclusion. Then it did not appear that time would be gained by the plan now adopted, and that, though it might cost more, it would lead to quicker settlements. There would be two Sub-Commissions at work each day, and the fact that the legal Sub-Commissioner would have the whole of his time occupied with giving decisions would necessarily double the number of decisions given. One word as to the yearly term of the Commissioner's office. He did not see how that short term of office could be avoided. The right hon. Gentleman, in common with all who considered the interests of Ireland, desired that the decisions should be given as quickly as possible; but that involved the appointment of a large number of persons to decide, and his experience was that many of those whose services it was most

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desirable to obtain were willing to be appointed for a short, but not for a long period. He hoped that the House would excuse his early intervention in the debate; but he wished to show how the matter presented itself to Lord Cowper and himself during their tenure of Office.

MR. MULHOLLAND said, he regretted he could not take the same views as the right hon. Member for Bradford did of the new decision of the Government. For his own part, he regarded that decision as a most humiliating one, and, in regard to the interests of Ireland, most unfortunate. As the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Dublin University had said, a system which but a few days ago was deemed a model of justice and fairness was reversed by the administrators of the Act suddenly and without explanation or adequate cause. He believed that the change had been made either in deference to popular clamour, which they must have known was artificial, or was the result of ignorance of the true state of the case, or of interested motives; and, in the former case, where were these concessions to stop? He, for one, saw no end to them, and felt that in Ireland nothing was fixed or certain. Capital would not go there for investment. They did not know what might happen before to-morrow. Men's minds were disturbed and perplexed by a sense of danger, and he saw no hope of improvement in the future unless the Prime Minister changed his method of governing the country. With respect to the discussion in the House at the time of the passing of the Land Act and the consideration of this particular question, he quite agreed with the right hon. Gentleman that there had been a total change of the principles on which the Act was administered. When the question of the appointment of valuers was first before the Government, they might have taken either of two courses: they might have made a valuation of the entire country, the acceptance of which valuation would have been compulsory; or they might have taken the standard of acknowledged fair rent in each district and have compelled the reduction of excessive rents to that point. The Prime Minister virtually adopted the latter alternative, and, abandoning the attempt to define fair rent universally, left the

matter to be decided by Commissioners in each district, remarking that there was no district in Ireland where what was a fair rent was not perfectly well known. With that policy he did not quarrel, as it was most difficult to find a definition of fair rent without having reference to the rent actually paid for many years past. If that were the only question to be decided by the Court, the evidence of the landlord would be to the effect that the present rent had existed for the last 40 or 50 years; that it was fixed at a period when the prices of agricultural produce were much lower than they were now; that it was not much above the average of neighbouring estates, and that the tenants' interests had been bought and sold on the basis of the present figure. These were all essential facts in determining what was a fair rent; but when the landlords found that evidence of this kind was not received, they necessarily looked out for valuers to give evidence. There was difficulty in finding them. There were very few in his neighbourhood whose valuations would give confidence, and these few were perpetually engaged; but even when they could be procured and got to attend before the Sub-Commissioners, the latter said they looked with suspicion upon the evidence of paid valuers. The landlords, however, could not be expected to get valuations made for nothing, though it was easy for the tenants to get their neighbours, who were expectant of like services in future, to make valuations without being paid. He must do the Commissioners the justice to say that they did not pay much heed to this interested evidence, founded upon the principle of live and thrive before paying any rent, to which principle the tenants give a very liberal interpretation. The Sub-Commissioners could not adjudicate without becoming valuers themselves, and this was the system to which they were going back after a short period of official valuations. The structure of the Court was altogether inadequate to deal with its work. When valuations were made for a subordinate purpose of taxation, the whole system was laid down in an Act of Parliament; but here the work of fixing the rent of the whole land of Ireland, with a capitalized value of £400,000,000, was assigned to a set of men without any guarantee as to the necessary qualification,

which notoriously many of them did not possess. The House had been told that the decisions were very much the same before and after the appointment of official valuers, and upon that point he could not speak with confidence; but even if their appointment did not influence the decisions, it certainly inspired much more confidence in them, for the landlords knew that these decisions were no longer made at random, but after consultation with skilled professional valuers, and they were, consequently, less likely to appeal. The Chief Secretary for Ireland had said the number of appeals had not decreased. All he could say in answer to that was that he had read a case in which the solicitor of a landlord had withdrawn a notice of appeal after he had seen a statement of the principles on which the official valuation was made, and this was said to be a sample of many cases. And, besides the desired diminution of appeals, the employment of these Court valuers was also likely to promote the settlement of cases out of Court, which would greatly accelerate the administration of the Act. There was no point connected with the Land Question more important than this. He felt sure that many more cases would be settled out of Court than was now the case if the work of qualified valuers rendered the decisions of the Courts and the consequent standard of rent more uniform. He believed that to some extent settlements had already been arrived at, and that many landlords were only waiting for an ultimate standard to be arrived at to come in; and that they had not done so already was due to the fact that these valuations had varied so considerably. But uniformity and consistency could only be looked for if the Commissioners had the assistance of qualified and impartial professional men. The Chief Secretary for Ireland had said that the chief merit to be looked for in valuers was that their business was rapidly got over; but, with all deference to the right hon. Gentleman, in his opinion, they should seek, not so much for rapidity as for fairness in their decisions. Justice should be considered in preference to expedition. He much preferred seeing the appointment of these valuers placed in the hands of a judicial tribunal rather than in those of the Government. The House had already had sufficient expe-

rience of what the appointments of the Government were. What had induced the Government to throw over the recommendations of the Chief Commissioners on this subject? He thought that he could give the House some explanation upon this point. The hon. Member for Tyrone (Mr. T. A. Dickson) had offered unmitigated hostility to the appointment of these valuers. He had addressed various meetings in Ulster on the subject—had told the farmers that these valuers were nothing but rent-raisers, and he even said they "must and shall be dismissed." These would appear to be very peremptory orders, difficult of explanation to anyone not acquainted with the special mission entrusted to the hon. Member for Tyrone. ["Oh!"] He did not say officially instructed; but it was well understood that the hon. Member had a mission to convert the Ulster farmers to the Liberal ranks. A person who had a duty of that kind before him might well be allowed a little latitude in his mode of performing it. But he believed that if the farmers were properly instructed as to the exact position of the facts, their view would be exceedingly different from that which had been represented to the Government. He hoped the interests of Ireland would not always be subordinate to the interests of Party. She had suffered very much from that already, and he believed never more fatally than by the change now proposed by the Government.

MR. CHARLES RUSSELL said, that the speech of the hon. Member opposite afforded a very good illustration of the inconvenience of raising a discussion of this character without Notice. The hon. Member for Downpatrick (Mr. Mullholland) had misconceived the views of the hon. Member for Tyrone (Mr. T. A. Dickson) altogether, and it was hard upon that hon. Member that he should be misrepresented in his absence. The hon. Member for Tyrone would, no doubt, have been in his place if he had had Notice that this discussion was coming on, and particularly if he had known that he was himself to be referred to. If the right hon. and learned Gentleman had desired to have the subject discussed fully, and those who took strong views on it opposed to his own to be heard, he would have taken a very different course. He (Mr. C. Russell), for one, had come

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down entirely unprepared for such a debate, and he had reason to believe that many of his hon. Friends who were absent would have been present had they had any Notice that this discussion, in which they would desire to take part, was likely to arise. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had taken a course, not only inconvenient in itself, but which rendered it impossible that those who had objected, and still object, to the employment of these valuers should have their views adequately represented. The right hon. and learned Gentleman had come down with a carefully-prepared and elaborate speech, and, having set the necessary organization behind him at work to make an audience for it certain, he had delivered it with the greatest emphasis and indignation. Why did he not give Notice of a Motion?

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL remarked, that if the right hon. and learned Gentleman had done so, it would have been blocked.

MR. CHARLES RUSSELL said, that the noble Lord was more fully conversant with the subject of blocking than he was. No doubt, under the 45th Section of the Land Act, the Land Commissioners had power to appoint these valuers; but what was the object of these appointments, and what were their limits? Such appointments could not be made without the consent of the Treasury, and the Treasury—which really meant the Executive—had given their consent conditionally that the appointments should only be made for a limited period of time, by way of experiment, in view of the possibility of their not answering their purpose. The right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite was mistaken when he regarded these valuers as forming a part of the judicial element of the Act. They were in no sense judicial officers; they corresponded rather to the valuers who were employed in cases for the particular and definite purpose of informing the mind of the Court, and they were not to sit as Judges themselves. If, therefore, the Treasury had a right to give a conditional consent to the appointments of these persons as an experiment, surely they had a right to say that the experiment should be no longer continued. It was said that the valuers had done their work well, that the landlords and tenants of Ireland ought to be satisfied with them, and that the Government was merely yielding to

vulgar clamour in the matter. Had he received Notice of the right hon. and learned Gentleman's intention to bring this subject before the House that evening, he could have brought numbers of letters from well-informed persons who objected to the action of the valuers. In fact, he could recall no instance in Irish politics where there had been so unanimous an opinion in condemnation of these appointments. He could not agree in the opinion attributed to the Chief Secretary for Ireland that there was no objection to the *personnel* of these Court valuers. A large number of the communications which had been addressed to him in reference to this question were based upon the fact that many of the Court valuers were men who had been previously in the employment of landlords as rent-raisers, and who, on that account, must necessarily have a strong bias. Another charge had been that these were in some cases not men of experience at all; and if that were so, it was important the House should understand what was the function they were called upon to discharge. One could understand the Court valuers, assuming that they were really able men, rendering an important service to the Court by ascertaining what was the full rent, and leaving the Court to make the necessary deductions and fix the fair rent; but what the Court valuers were asked to fix was not the full rent, but the fair rent. They were asked to do that without reviewing in evidence those elements which were absolutely indispensable to enable them to perform the function properly. A man might go down and inspect a farm, and the condition of the buildings upon it, and might say—"This land, as it stands, would only fetch 30s. or £1 an acre." But how could he, a stranger to the holding, with no power to examine witnesses or means of obtaining information as to the important data which went to determine a fair rent, give an accurate opinion as to what was a fair rent? He could not do it at all; and yet it was said his opinion as to a fair rent, come to without the power of examining the elements on which the calculations were based, should be put before the Court to influence its judgment in fixing a fair rent. But the objections to the system which had been tried did not stop there. There was another objection, the mere mention of

which was sufficient to show hon. Members the justice of it, and that was the practical secrecy of the proceedings of the Court valuers. The valuers were not called before the Court before which the case was determined, except at the wish of the Court itself, and the parties to the case were practically in complete ignorance as to what, in the valuer's opinion, was the fair rent. The valuation so sent in was influencing the mind of the Court in determining the question of a fair rent when neither party knew what it was, or had the opportunity of cross-examining the valuer, so that men's rights were permanently prejudiced upon grounds they had no opportunity of meeting. The mere statement of the facts condemned the appointment of these Court valuers. They had wholly failed to expedite the despatch of business, and to lessen appeals, as anticipated, when appointed. It was said that the Government were yielding to ignoble clamour. It was said that the hon. Member for Tyrone had an ambition to convert the staunch farmers of Ulster from Toryism to Liberalism. He (Mr. C. Russell) did not know whether his hon. Friend had such an ambition; but let the Opposition take warning that such speeches as those of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) and of the hon. Member for Downpatrick (Mr. Mulholland) would do more to extirpate Conservatism in Ulster than many such speeches as that of the hon. Member for Tyrone. But what was the meaning of yielding to popular clamour? Did it mean yielding to expressed public opinion? Let them test the public opinion in a fair way. Let them give notice to the Representatives from Ireland that they wished to ascertain public opinion on this subject, for, after all, this was a Parliament of representative opinion, and within these walls the opinion of the people of Ireland could be gathered. He could understand the right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite not altogether agreeing with him on the subject of representative government; but how was public opinion to be ascertained unless through the Representatives of the people in this House? The Government had wisely put an end to an experiment which, if persevered in, would have been fraught with the utmost danger to the fair prospects of

the Land Act. Would hon. Members opposite get up gravely in their places and say that this Act, however it might be criticized on the one side as against the interests of the tenants, and on the other as confiscation of the landlord's rights, should not be administered in a just and proper manner so as to give confidence? Just rights should be recognized on either side, and some attempt should be made to command the confidence and approval of the people of Ireland.

Mr. TOTTENHAM said, the hon. and learned Member asked why Notice had not been given to hon. Members for Ireland that such a subject as this was going to be brought up. Why, it was because no one could possibly have anticipated the reply which had been given to the Questions put to the Government that evening. It was said that in Ireland there was a consensus of opinion adverse to these valuers; but his experience led him to a conclusion diametrically opposed to that stated by the last speaker, who said that the valuers were not men of experience, and that they were asked to fix, not the full rent, but a fair rent. It was true they were asked to fix a fair rent, but they were to consider the land as they saw it, and the circumstances urged on the spot by the representatives of the landlord and the tenant; and he did not know in what better way a fair rent could be arrived at. The hon. and learned Member also said that the report sent in by the valuer was likely to prejudice the hearing of a case in the mind of the Court, and he complained that neither of the litigant parties were aware of what that report was. The hon. and learned Member was, apparently, not acquainted with the practice in the Courts of the Sub-Commissioners, as he (Mr. Tottenham) unfortunately was. The practice was, or the recent practice had been, that, after the hearing of the evidence, one of the lay Commissioners went out over the land with the valuer; they then gave in a report made up in the full Court. He did not see how it could be contended that the report, which was to be given in by the valuer previously to the hearing of the case, could in any way prejudice the finding of the Court. The principal reason given by the right hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) for the recent change was that it would expedite the business of the Com-

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missioners generally, and would enable them to dispose of cases that had for many months been blocking the Courts. But he (Mr. Tottenham) did not see how business was to be expedited by having two pairs of Commissioners to do exactly the same work that one pair had done before. It seemed to him to be obvious that a skilled witness or valuer, and one Commissioner, who should go out and inspect the land, were likely to get over as much work as two Commissioners, and to do it more efficiently. The House, he thought, must have listened with great astonishment to what he could only call a further proof of the *mala fides* with which the Act was being administered, contrary to the repeated expressions and promises of the framers given in 1881. He regretted that a tardy attempt made to do a small modicum of justice had been given up at the instigation of those who, having once got their hands into other people's pockets, were chafed at the check which, in some cases, the presence of these experts had placed upon their greed and dishonesty. He was far from admitting that the present system was perfect, but it was the nearest approach to scant justice which partizan administrators could have adopted. He believed it was adopted by them because they felt that the course that had been pursued, and of which complaints had been made daily, could not be defended on the principles of justice and equity. The Chief Secretary for Ireland did all in his power to neutralize any good effect which might have arisen from the appointment of these valuers by making the speech in which he clearly gave them to understand that, in the event of their proceedings and decisions not being in accordance with the wishes of the Government, as their appointments would be purely temporary, when the time for their renewal came he would know how to deal with them. What was it that the Government eminently wished should take place? Why, that a general reduction in the rental of Ireland should take place. ["Hear, hear!"] He presumed that the hon. and gallant Baronet (General Sir George Balfour) who said "Hear, hear!" was not an owner of property in Ireland. Other Members of the Government had spoken in the same spirit, and it was obvious that the Act was to be partial in its operation, and that the reductions were to be heavy.

What was the course pursued? The Government let loose a number of men, interested in many cases, in other cases ignorant of the first principles of agriculture—men in whose power it was put to burn, sink, and destroy the interests of the landlord where they came into conflict with those of the tenant, and thus had they well earned the name by which they were known throughout the country of "sub-confiscators," not Sub-Commissioners. Afterwards, public opinion being strongly roused at the action of the Sub-Commissioners, the appointment of skilled valuers was suggested to curb some of the absurdities that were being daily enacted. Those valuers were merely to advise the Court, and not to vote, and in many instances their estimate of value was not taken into consideration by the Commission. The tenants and their mouthpieces, however, finding that the "sub-confiscators" could not play the same pranks, or play them to the same extent as they had before been doing, directly the valuers were appointed, set up a shout of lamentation when they thought they were about to be deprived of some of their expected plunder; and they had ever since been demanding the removal of the only element of justice which had been introduced into that tribunal. To that clamour Her Majesty's Government had given way—not for the first or twentieth time—and now they sought to evade inquiry into that subject on the specious plea that Parliament had been called together only for one purpose. The country would understand that the pledges given by them had been disregarded and were worthless, and that popular clamour was to their minds more irresistible than the dictates of equity and justice.

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, I prefer to take the views held on the opposite side of the House on this matter from the speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson), rather than from that of the hon. Member who has just sat down, and whose statements in this House always represent the arguments and feelings of the Tory Party in Ireland raised to a state of white heat and incandescence, in such a degree that the ordinary mind is hardly able to follow them. Ever since the hon. Gentleman taught his doctrine of "salting the land well with rent"—

Mr. TOTTENHAM: I did not teach that doctrine.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I thought it was contained, and I thought I had read it, in the evidence of the hon. Gentleman before the Commission.

Mr. TOTTENHAM: It was not mine; it was a quotation which I cited.

Mr. GLADSTONE: It was a quotation; but I understood it to be adopted by the hon. Member. If I am wrong in that, I entirely withdraw the expression. The hon. Member does not say I am wrong.

Mr. TOTTENHAM: No, Sir; it is not my opinion. It is a quotation which I cited in the evidence I gave before the Commission. I do not adopt it.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Then I do not dwell upon it for a moment; but there are some words in the speech just made that are not quotations, or, if they are quotations, they are very cordially adopted. His account, for instance, of the Sub-Commissioners is that of "sub-confiscators." That is a quotation which is cordially adopted. He improved upon the quotation, because he spoke of these Sub-Commissioners being disappointed when arrangements were made which would deprive them of their expected plunder.

Mr. TOTTENHAM: Not the Sub-Commissioners.

Mr. GLADSTONE: Then, why were Sub-Commissioners disappointed at not obtaining plunder?

Mr. TOTTENHAM: The tenants were disappointed; not the Sub-Commissioners. The Sub-Commissioners were the mouthpieces of the tenants.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I thought I understood the hon. Gentleman to say that the Sub-Commissioners had been in a state of apprehension and excitement on the subject of these valuers. The hon. Gentleman now says they are mouthpieces. A mouthpiece is an organ employed by some individual or another to express sentiments which the person himself is not in a condition to express directly. He says they are the mouthpieces of the tenants. Well, Sir, the tenants are an important portion of the population of Ireland, and, according to the hon. Gentleman, he is only responsible to the extent of describing the Sub-Commissioners—that is, to imply that they have exercised functions that are judicial in a spirit that is not judicial; and if that is so, I do not see why he

should not apply to them the expressions about plunder which he says he did not apply. But I pass on from these matters. There are two questions raised before the House, and I shall touch briefly on only one of them. The first is in regard to certain expressions used by my right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, in a speech made by him on the subject of the appointment of valuers. I join in most of the complaints of the speech; but the defence of it in detail I shall leave to my right hon. Friend himself, because that is a duty which he can best and most appropriately discharge. I will speak, Sir, upon the question of the appointment of these valuers and the withdrawal of the appointment; and upon that subject I know not whom I may please and whom I may displease, but I shall give what I may call the dry view of the subject. I am aware of no charge to be made against these valuers. I do not admit any charge against them. I am aware of no ground for sustaining it; and as I admit no charge against the valuers, as unequivocally I admit no charge against the Sub-Commissioners. I think the choice of the Sub-Commissioners does the highest credit to my right hon. Friend the Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster). It was a very difficult duty to discharge at short notice, and it was admirably performed. The accusations against the Sub-Commissioners have miserably broken down. Why did we appoint valuers? I will give my own account of my own share in the matter as the responsible Head of the Government and of the Treasury. I frankly own it required all my respect for the Land Commission, all my desire to give the weight to their recommendation which I fully grant ought to be given to them in every case where the Executive Government share in the functions, and where it is not under the influence of some imperative call the other way—I say it required the whole of that influence to induce consent to the measure. The right hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) referred to a report of a speech of mine, given in *Hansard*, when the valuers were appointed. It is seldom that in the variety of discussions that take place in this House the exact words one uses merge into the record of our proceedings, and I do not think that the report in question contains all that

I said on the subject. I may say that at first I was deliberately opposed to this method of proceeding. I looked upon it as a cumbrous method—as a method tending to diminish the responsibility of the Sub-Commissioners. I looked upon it as a method not likely to attract public confidence, and that without the smallest respect to the question whether it was likely to err in the direction of the landlords or in the direction of the tenants. I now come to this important part. The Land Commissioners made a recommendation which has not been presented to the House, and it is a matter of concern to my right hon. Friend that he has not felt himself at liberty to present the Paper to the House. It has been referred to by the right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Gibson), who had some knowledge of its contents. I know not whether he has that knowledge from the declarations of the Government or from any other quarter.

MR. GIBSON: Entirely from the declarations of the Government.

MR. GLADSTONE: I am bound to say that I have refreshed my memory upon it, and I find that the only motives urged by the Land Commissioners were not in the slightest degree what has been represented by the hon. Member who has just sat down—namely, that they acted with the view of curbing, to some extent, glaring absurdities that were of daily occurrence. There is not the slightest reference to anything of the kind, nor the slightest expression of dissatisfaction of the system of the Sub-Commissioners acting on their own responsibility. The Land Commissioners, as far as I am cognizant of it, urged two reasons, and two only; and these reasons were, that they believed that by the appointment of valuers they would greatly increase the expedition of the proceedings, and that it would bring about a diminution in the number of appeals. These were the motives that appealed to us most strongly. We were most anxious to expedite the proceedings. We had allowed no considerations of public expense to stand between us and anything that promised to promote that end; and these considerations, urged by the Commissioners, certainly operated upon me to do that about which I had great doubts whether it was agreeable to the House of Commons,

recollecting the debate that had taken place about the best method, and the most straightforward and just method, of carrying on these investigations. The experiment accordingly was made, and what is the result? It is this—that we have entirely failed in bringing about the expedition, which was the capital object we had in view. It is impossible to say that they have been expedited in any degree; but it is clear, if they have been expedited at all, they have been expedited in a degree which might be called infinitesimal. With respect to appeals, we have not the same perfect exactitude of figures before us to enable us to judge; but we have much evidence before us, and that evidence entirely tends to the conclusion that the appeals have not been diminished. If this is so, the two reasons given by the Land Commissioners have both of them fallen away, and not been fulfilled, and it is not a question of clamour; it is not a question of satisfying friends.

MR. GIBSON: There was a third reason given by the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

MR. GLADSTONE: My right hon. Friend was perfectly entitled to give that reason, if he thought fit; but I am speaking of the recommendation of the Land Commissioners. My right hon. Friend hoped, no doubt, it would have that effect; but I do not see that it has had that effect. It has produced quite as much objection, only from a different quarter; and I observe that what is meant by clamour is that part of public opinion of which you disapprove—and what is meant by public opinion, in the mouth of any gentleman, is the sentiment of the class to which you are allied in sympathy. But the Land Commissioners proceeded simply on the grounds that I have described, and those grounds have been cut away from under our feet. The right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Gibson), I own, makes a plausible objection when he says that short tenure is a great reason for questioning the proceedings of these Assistant Commissioners, or of the valuers, for their tenure was shorter still. But the answer to the objection is that not only was great care taken, as experience, I think, proves to be the case, in the selection of the men, but in the appeals themselves, and in the fair and reason-

able and satisfactory degree in which those original judgments have been sustained upon appeal by the superior tribunal, whose competency no man doubts; and that, I think, is a conclusive answer to the objection drawn from the argument of short tenure. Then the right hon. and learned Gentleman complains of the cost of the new arrangement. How does the matter stand? My right hon. Friend has, I believe, stated—I was out of the House at the commencement of his statement—that he hopes to secure the services of those valuers, or of some of those valuers. [Mr. TREVELYAN: No, no; I did not say so.] At any rate, it is unnecessary. I thought some of those valuers would have been persons very proper for appointment. They will be considered, I believe, to be candidates for these offices; but at any rate they disappear as valuers, and the cost of them as valuers disappears. What is the practical state of the question as regards costs? We are going to undergo, to give our sanction to another increase of expenditure, but entirely with a view to that great and paramount object, expedition, the hope of which misled us, I believe, a couple of months ago, and the reality of which we hope now to attain. How does that matter stand? Overlooking the difference between the salary of a legal Commissioner and the salary of a lay Commissioner, we have at present Courts of four members, as far as expense is concerned—a legal member and three lay members—and these Courts of four members are doing work which was done by Courts of three. How do we propose to stand as to expenses? We propose to have Courts of five members—one legal Commissioner and four lay Commissioners. We shall have, therefore, a further expense. But with the Court of five members we hope, and expect, and calculate that we shall do the work of two Courts of four members. Therefore, although there is an increase of charge, with rapidly going through this important business, there is in reality a great economy, because there is a great shortening of the process of meeting with this mass of applications. It is just like this, if I may express it by the old symbols of algebra. Four men cost what we will call “X,” and effect work which we will call “Y;” and now, by adding to “X” a quarter of “X,” we are going to

Mr. Gladstone

get in work “Y” twice over. That is exactly the state of the case, as represents the matter of economy, and I hope it will be admitted on all hands that the landlord is as much interested as the tenant in expediting these proceedings. About that I think there can be no doubt whatever. The settlement of the country, the full establishment and consolidation of confidence, and the making it known to the world that Ireland is a land where industrial relations are upon a stable footing, that arrangements between landlord and tenant have the character of permanence, and are placed, humanly speaking, beyond the reach of disturbance—these are questions of the greatest importance, and they are questions which cannot be carried to their maturity except by expediting the proceedings under the Land Act. I hope, as far as I am concerned, there can be no great difficulty in answering why I am a willing partner in the measure of my right hon. Friend and the Irish Government. I never loved in principle this method of proceeding by valuers, never anticipated it would be an improvement, and acceded to it for the sake of two great reasons which were propounded, and justifiably propounded, I have no doubt, by great authority. I have found these two reasons fail. I have found a large, heavy charge imposed on the Exchequer without any corresponding benefit whatever, and certainly not with the benefit of giving satisfaction, because dissatisfaction has been more loud and wider—if that were the consideration to which we look; but the point I take is that the two reasons have entirely failed, and consequently we propose to substitute for the present system, alike costly, cumbrous, and slow, a system under which, with a limited increase of the present cost, we shall realize a great future and permanent economy; and by means of which, having labour applied in a manner more economical and effective, we shall do greater greater justice to the Land Act by causing its provisions to find effect with far greater speed and efficacy over the whole surface of Ireland.

MR. SPEAKER'S UNAVOIDABLE ABSENCE.

The Clerk at the Table regretted to have to inform the House of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, who, having been compelled by indisposition

to leave the House, had found himself unable to resume the Chair.

Whereupon Mr. Playfair, the Chairman of Ways and Means, took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, pursuant to the Standing Order.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—
OFFICIAL VALUERS.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

MR. PLUNKET said, he was sure the whole House deeply sympathized with the regret expressed by Sir Erskine May, and the cause which had necessitated Mr. Lyon Playfair taking the Chair; but, before the unfortunate circumstance occurred, which they all sincerely trusted might not be of any serious moment, the Prime Minister had just addressed the House, and he (Mr. Plunket) would make a brief commentary upon that speech. He did not think it necessary to speak at much length, because the various Members who had addressed the House since his right hon. and learned Friend and Colleague (Mr. Gibson) opened the debate had really not touched the main grounds upon which he rested his case. The two main grounds were that by the action of the Government, as declared by the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, a precedent had been set for the interference by the Executive Government in Ireland with the action of the Land Commissioners in a matter which was essentially theirs, and in which they ought not to be interfered with. No answer had been made to that charge at all. The other complaint, and the main ground of his right hon. and learned Friend, was the language—as he thought the most unfortunate language—which had been used by the Chief Secretary in dealing with this subject when receiving a deputation of Ulster Liberals. The Prime Minister commenced by criticizing some practical observations made by his hon. Friend the Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham), and had reproached him because he spoke of Sub-Commissioners under the Land Act as sub-confiscators. He thought the Prime Minister might have remembered that the hon. Member had had a considerable portion of his rent, though not so large as some landlords, taken away through no fault or act of his own, and through some principle

entirely new to the law of this country. If he did speak warmly it should not be forgotten that the Prime Minister had encouraged the acceptance of the Act, and he did not doubt secured it by holding out that reductions would only occur in certain exceptional cases, that they would not be the general rule, and that good landlords would get off scot free. His hon. Friend had not found that to be the case, although one of the best landlords in the country, and if he spoke warmly there was some excuse for his language. Why, there had been a general reduction of rents all round of more than 20 per cent. Into that question, however, he did not wish to enter. The immediate subject before the House was the question raised by his right hon. and learned Friend and Colleague, and upon that he felt bound to say that the ground taken up by the Government was radically and fundamentally bad. Power had not been given to the Government to appoint valuers, because it was feared that their appointments would be open to suspicion. The same danger existed now. The original idea was to leave the appointment of the valuers to the Land Commission; and the only control given to the Government was that of assenting, through the Treasury, to the appointments. He was greatly struck by a curious expression used by his hon. and learned Friend the Member for Dundalk (Mr. C. Russell), who said that the Treasury ought to have the appointment of these officials, and that the Commissioners ought only to arrange what salaries they were to receive. Of course, the direct reverse of this was the case. The Prime Minister gave two reasons why the Land Commissioners did generally advocate the appointment of valuers. He said it was for the purpose of increasing the expedition and the action of the Land Commissioners in valuing fair rents; and, secondly, for the purpose of diminishing appeals. The right hon. Gentleman stated that the experiment was tried and had failed, and he said that if it had succeeded at all it had only infinitesimally succeeded—of course, they had not the figures before them, so they could not judge for themselves. The Land Act had been in operation but a short time, and the plan under which the valuers were appointed had been at work a still shorter time. But, as to the hope expressed that it

would have the effect of diminishing appeals, the Prime Minister said that that had also failed—at least, he said that there was not much evidence of any improvement being made. Again, it was impossible for the House to judge of that matter, because the Government would not give up the document in which the Commissioners had recorded their opinion. It was not possible for him to approach the Prime Minister upon that matter; but he would remark that it was not the right hon. Gentleman nor the Irish Executive who ought to be the umpire as to what should be the plan, whether the plan was a success or not, but it was the Land Commissioners. Although it was the main ground of the speech of his right hon. and learned Friend and Colleague who introduced this Motion, the Prime Minister had not informed the House why it was that the Land Commissioners had not changed their opinion as to the propriety of appointing these valuers, and why they continued their opposition to the abolition of the valuers, until the Government interfered with the power which the Treasury gave them, and took away from the Commissioners that assistance which they thought was politic, and which had been conceded to them only a short time previously. The Prime Minister had stated that the ground upon which the valuers had been appointed had been cut away. That was not, he contended, a sufficient reason to give; and what they wanted to know was, whether the ground was cut away from under the feet of the Land Commissioners when they appointed the valuers? The Prime Minister made a calculation to show in what way time and money were to be economized by the abolition of these valuers. It appeared to him, however, that the expenses would be indefinitely increased, while time would not be saved under the new system. The valuers would now be called Sub-Commissioners, with, he supposed, an addition to their salary, and a larger number of men to do the work. He hoped the Chief Secretary would be able to say what were the advantages which he expected to derive from the new system. The hon. and learned Member for Dundalk found fault with his right hon. and learned Friend and Colleague (Mr. Gibson) for bringing this matter suddenly before the House;

Mr. Plunket

but how else was the right hon. and learned Gentleman to get the information he wished for? All their opportunities had been taken away, and in this Autumn Session they were not able to obtain what they wanted except by the course now adopted. If the answer of the Chief Secretary for Ireland earlier in the day had been satisfactory, no Motion for Adjournment would have been made. Moreover, the time was slipping away. These appointments would soon be gone, and what would be the use of protesting after they had been abolished? It would come like a pardon after an execution. He did not propose to argue at all whether the action of the valuers had been to the advantage of the landlords. That was just the very view of the case which he deprecated, and which he was entitled to denounce. The ground on which he objected to the action which the Government were now entering upon was this—that they were interfering by means of the Irish Executive, and through the control the Treasury gave them were endeavouring to disappoint the intentions, to thwart the policy, and to overthrow the discretion of the Land Commissioners, who ought to know what was best on this subject, who alone had practical experience, and whose action in this matter ought, for every reason, to be as free as possible from the influence of the Executive of the day. He objected altogether to the Executive dealing with this question. Suppose another Government were to succeed to power, why there would be an utter want of confidence in the action of these Commissioners if it were thought that they could be overborne by the Government of the day. Then, too, he had to complain seriously of the speech which was delivered by the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to a deputation which waited upon him in October last. If ever there was an occasion upon which a Minister ought to be careful what expressions he used, surely that was such an occasion. His right hon. and learned Friend had made one quotation from that speech, and he (Mr. Plunket) would make another. The right hon. Gentleman said—

“We shall have a statement from all the Sub-Commissioners in the same manner, and if the general conclusion to be drawn is that the tenants have not at all lost by the change, then I am sure that the tenants will be willing to arrive at the same conclusion; and if, on the

other hand, we come to the conclusion they have lost by the change, the Government will sympathize with them and feel that they have taken a step injurious to them."

Now, what could be taken as the meaning of that? That if it should turn out that the average reduction of rent according to the valuers had hitherto been too great, why then the valuers would be dismissed. The speech which the Chief Secretary made was that the object of the Land Court was not so much to fix fair rents as to give satisfaction to those now dissatisfied. The Land Act was passed and agreed to by many at great sacrifice of principle and personal feeling, in the hope that it would assuage agitation, and that there was some kind of finality in it; but the effect of such language as the Chief Secretary had used was to encourage agitation. The right hon. Gentleman had said, in effect, that if there was any dissatisfaction felt with the Land Commissioners, application should be made to him, and the Government would see that the matter complained of was set right. The Government had not been able to give any satisfactory reasons for the discontinuance of the valuers, or why they were about to deprive the Land Commission of the advantage of their assistance. The Land Commissioners were the only proper authorities on this matter. He thought his hon. Friend and Colleague was perfectly justified in bringing forward this subject this evening; for it was impossible for him to have passed over the answer of the Chief Secretary, or to see the present step taken in the very teeth of the Land Commissioners. The Land Act was the child of political agitation, and it would have to grow up in its infancy in the atmosphere of agitation; but the great object should be, as far as possible, to lead people to understand that there was some measure of finality about the policy which introduced it; that further concessions would not be made, and that the policy of the Act would not be interfered with by political pressure, no matter from what quarter it might come. The course the Government had taken would have a tendency to defeat the true policy for which the House passed the Act and entertained such great hopes—hopes which had already been crushed.

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON said, he must express his regret that more of his

Colleagues from the North of Ireland were not in their seats when the Chief Secretary for Ireland made his very satisfactory statement to the House. He agreed with the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) that all that was wanted was fair and impartial justice. If the farmers of the North of Ireland desired more than that they must find some other exponent of their views than himself. The hon. Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham) had spoken of public plunder. If he saw the Sub-Commissioners adopting a policy of public plunder, or putting their hands into other people's pockets, the Land Act would have to find some other exponent than himself. The right hon. and learned Gentleman who spoke last took exception to the speech made by the Chief Secretary in October last. There were some observations which might bear the construction the right hon. and learned Gentleman put upon them; but as he himself introduced the deputation, he might state that the impression left on their minds by those observations was not similar to the construction which had been put upon them. Their impression was that the valuers had been appointed for an express purpose—namely, to expedite the decisions under the Land Act; and that, if they did not bring about that result, they would be changed. The Prime Minister said the appointments had not increased the number of cases heard, or the number of fair rents fixed, and had not decreased the plethora with which the Courts were gorged; and he thought that was sufficient reason for going back to the old procedure of the time when the Land Act was introduced. The gravamen of hon. Members opposite appeared to be that the Government had given way to clamour. The only charge that could be brought against the Government was that of having given way to clamour. But if the term popular sentiment were substituted for clamour the question would assume a different aspect. It was unwise in such matters to disregard popular sentiment. Without, however, wishing to throw any cant or any charge at hon. Gentlemen opposite, he thought he might safely state this—that if there were any very strong public sentiment raised in the North of Ireland against the appointment of these valuers on their

attachment to the Court, it arose from the action of the Conservative Party, and their attitude towards the Land Act ever since it became law. The Land Act was not long in existence before a landlords' meeting in Dublin was convened, and ridiculous statements were bandied about respecting the incompetency of the Sub-Commissioners, and equally ridiculous stories as to the rapidity of their valuations. It was said of one of them that he poked his stick into the ground, drew it up again, with the decision, "Fifteen shillings an acre." Shortly after that followed a proposal in "another place" that a Committee should be appointed to consider the working of the Land Act, and a noble Lord in the "other place" stated that the object of the Committee was to revolutionize the administration of the Land Act. But owing to the spirited action of the Government that object failed. Then followed a guerilla warfare on their part, and individual Sub-Commissioners were attacked. In one instance a Sub-Commissioner was objected to because it was stated he was an ex-publican. It turned out, however, that the gentleman in question was both tenant farmer and landlord—that he had been recommended by the highest authorities, and that he had been complimented by Captain Gibson, brother of the right hon. and learned Member for Dublin University, for the discrimination and care with which he had fixed fair rents. This course of action begot a very strong sentiment in the minds of the tenants that the Sub-Commissioners were their friends—more, perhaps, than really they were; but when they found in their places the valuers they objected to them, and objected much more than if the action had not previously been taken. Those objections were threefold. In the first place, the tenant farmers in the North of Ireland boldly stated that a change in the administration of the Act was a breach of faith with them. They looked upon it in this light, and they justified their opinion. They called to mind that after the Land Act was passed every inducement was offered in some parts of Ireland for the tenants not to avail themselves of the Land Court. A document was sent to him the other day containing the following words—"Hold the harvest; pay no rent; avoid the Land Court."

Mr. J. N. Richardson

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: What is the date of that document?

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON: I do not know the date of the document?

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: Is it more than a year old?

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON: It is less than a year old.

MR. O'KELLY: Was that document issued in consequence of the attempted suppression of the Land League and the arrest of the Irish Members?

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON was unable to say, but after the passage of the Land Act such a document was issued; but, notwithstanding such pernicious advice, 32,000 Ulster tenants poured into the Land Court; and the fact of their doing so was, he believed, greatly owing to the number of cases that came from other parts of Ireland. Those 32,000 tenants sent in their originating notices on the faith of fair rents being fixed on certain procedures; and now was it fair or just for the Land Commissioners to alter that procedure without the consent of the applicants for originating notices, bearing in mind that they could not withdraw from the Court without the consent of the opposing party? Another objection which was held to be good against the appointment of valuers, and which he considered extremely valid, was the amount of friction they caused in the working of the Land Act. The valuers were of the Commission, and yet not in it. They were, or had been, *imperium in imperio*. The valuer gave his report on the fair rent separately from the Report of the Commissioners; and the following was therefore the result, or had been the result in his experience:—If the valuer sent in a report stating a farm was worth less than a fair rent fixed, then the tenant thought he had a grievance, and was apt to appeal. If, on the other hand, the valuer sent in a report that the rent was higher than the fair rent fixed, the landlord naturally thought the Land Commissioners were not dealing fairly with him, and was apt to appeal. Then, if for peace sake, as might sometimes have been the case, the Sub-Commissioners adopted the value of the valuer, then the valuer became master of the situation, and really decided the fair rent; but the objection which was the most fatal in the North of Ireland was the very name of valuator. In old

times, before the existence of the protection thrown round the tenant farmers of Ireland by the Land Acts of 1870 and 1881, the valuer was a regular part of the machinery by which the landlord could squeeze the rent out of his tenant to an unfair point. If a sale took place from an old and generous proprietor in Ireland to a mere speculative purchaser it was the sign of a visit of an "impartial valuer," and this impartial valuer seldom gave any decision other than a raise of rent. Therefore, it was not altogether unreasonable that they should bring upon themselves the name of "rent-raisers." But this was a mere piece of sentiment, and the Government could not give way to it. But then, on the other hand, they could not afford to ignore sentiment; and no doubt, had the Leader of the Opposition paid a visit to Belfast, he would not have done so. In conclusion, he was thankful to Her Majesty's Government for not having disregarded what he considered to be the proper and Constitutional expression of sentiment in the North and West of Ireland upon this subject, and he earnestly trusted that the algebraical prophecy of the Prime Minister might be fully realized.

MR. O'DONNELL said, he thought the House might fairly and justly join in an expression of sympathy with the hon. Member who had just sat down at the surprise which had fallen upon the Ulster Liberals, who, accustomed to having their respectful protestations disregarded by Her Majesty's Government, were now quite astonished to find that the desired removal of the Court valuers had taken place without any consultation with them. He only hoped that the expression of the hon. Member's grief would be duly reported to his constituents, and that they would derive a useful lesson from it at the next election. If a Member of the House desired to bring pressure to bear upon a Liberal Government, he had better not be an Irish Liberal himself. Irish Liberals were too faithful, and Her Majesty's Government too sure of their attachment under all circumstances, to render any little appearance of discontent on their part a matter of the slightest importance in Ministerial eyes. There was no doubt, however, that several surprises had fallen upon the House that night. They had heard the right hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E.

Forster) declare his desire to prevent the increase of acerbity between Parties in that House. They had him coming forth in the novel character of a pourer of oil upon troubled waters. When the right hon. Gentleman was Chief Secretary for Ireland his appearances in that character were decidedly few and far between. They had also witnessed the spectacle of the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) protesting against the intrusion of the Executive into judicial operations; but it struck him that the right hon. and learned Gentleman had not one word of protest against the intrusion of the Irish Executive into the sphere of the judiciary when they deliberately interfered with the preparations of the Irish tenantry to bring their cases before the Land Courts in the form most suitable to them, and, in pursuance of the policy of interference, cast into gaol without trial the Representatives of the tenantry of Ireland. He was, therefore, inclined to think that the present protest of the right hon. and learned Gentleman was based less on constitutional scruples than upon the selfish fears of his supporters in Ireland; but if the right hon. and learned Gentleman felt surprise at the action of the Government, he ought to remember that no less a person than the Irish Solicitor General was the Representative of a tenant farmer constituency; and, if he recollected that the tenant farmers of Derry had threatened wholesale to withdraw their cases from the Land Courts unless the Court valuers were dismissed, he would have been at no loss to arrive at one of the reasons which induced the Government to get rid of these objectionable aftergrowths of the Land Act. If the Court valuers were not dismissed, it would, at the next election, be decidedly a case of the dismissal of the Solicitor General from the representation of Derry. However, while he certainly thought the Government were wise in getting rid of the Court valuers, he was tempted to sympathize with the spirit of the exclamation of the Conservative Member for Armagh (Mr. Beresford), who asked—"How is all going to end?" This system of experimentation upon popular feeling was a poor remedy for Ireland. He wished the Government would lay before the country without delay some definite scheme for the settlement of the Land Question. Instead of the condemned

Court valuers, whose conduct was perfectly irreproachable, but at the same time unendurable, they were to have a number of additional Sub-Commissioners. No increase in the number of Sub-Commissioners would settle the Irish Land Question; and if, instead of continuing experiments of the kind of dismissing Court valuers one day and appointing Court valuers the next; now disregarding the respectful protestations of the Ulster Liberals; now listening to the angry complaints of the Land League, and the vigorous tugging of Mr. Michael Davitt at what the Prime Minister would call the chapel bell; if, instead of pursuing a see-saw policy of that kind, the Government came forward with something like a clear and satisfactory settlement of the Land Question, based on the Land League programme, and introduced, he did not say some liberal, but some honest scheme of purchase, under which a peasant proprietary might be created by the purchase of their holdings by the tenants at a fair price, a great deal of the time of the House would be saved, and a great deal of discomfort, disorder, and discontent would be prevented in Ireland.

MR. O'SHAUGHNESSY said, that if the object of the Government was to save time, nothing could be more calculated to further it and to enable land cases to be disposed of rapidly than the course which the Government had now adopted. He thought the Government fully justified in that course. It did not affect the judicial action of the Land Commission, but was a matter quite outside it. He did not know what was to be the quorum of a Sub-Commission as strengthened to five members; but if three was the quorum, then the Legal Sub-Commissioner and two others could be sitting whilst the other two were out examining lands to be dealt with at future sittings. That was a system which was calculated to remedy the defect which undoubtedly did exist under the old system. Apart from the question of saving time, there were much graver considerations, which made it wise and just to depart from the experiment which was tried for three months. The Government and the Land Commission must be taken as representing the force of the law in Ireland, and, no doubt, they did not act without consultation with one another; but if the Land Commission, in suggesting the appointment of land

valuators, and the Executive, in following their recommendation, had made a mistake, the wisest and honestest course was to acknowledge that mistake at the earliest opportunity, and correct it. No doubt, the course taken by the Government was an interference with the decision arrived at by the Land Commission; but it was not an interference of a judicial description. The valuers in the Land Commission Courts were not in the position of Judges, and could scarcely be treated as witnesses; they were persons who exercised a paramount influence on the Court, but whose opinion was not binding. In the whole course of jurisprudence no instance of a body of persons placed in a similar position could be found. The appointment of these persons was entirely outside the judicial duties of the Land Commissioners. In most Acts of Parliament a question like that of the valuers was provided for by the Act; in this case it was delegated to the Commissioners as persons employed in an administrative capacity to carry out the Act. Such a matter was properly one for legislation, and the action of the Government with regard to it in no way constituted an interference with the judicial discretion of the Commissioners. He only regretted that the Government had not earlier taken the step they now proposed.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON said, that, while the Prime Minister had denied that any charge had been made against the valuers, the hon. and learned Member for Dundalk (Mr. Charles Russell) had approved of the decision of the Government as being in accordance with Irish popular opinion. What did that mean? He agreed with the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell) that though the decision of the Government that night might be of small importance, yet there was a great question of principle behind—namely, where was this to end? The position of the landlords in Ireland was, in many respects, most miserable. However friendly their relations with their tenants, however low their rents, they found themselves in litigation, and their property gradually sliced away. If safeguards were provided for them—Acts of Parliament—popular pressure was brought upon the Government, and they were abolished. Although the Prime Minister denied that a charge had been made against the valuers, to the

Mr. O'Donnell

effect that since their appointment the reductions of rent had been less than before, yet the conduct of the Government emphasized that charge. By the act of dismissing or refusing to allow the valuers to be employed longer, the Government were endorsing that charge. If a charge were made against the Sub-Commissioners, and the Government were publicly to state their intention to dismiss them, and, at the same time, deny the accuracy of the charges made against them, would not the dismissal create the idea in the public mind that the Government considered them guilty? If that applied to the Sub-Commissioners it also applied to the valuers. It was said that the dismissal was in accordance with popular opinion in Ireland. What was popular opinion in Ireland? Owing to the large number of tenants in proportion to the landlord class, popular opinion meant the views of one class of suitors before the Land Commission. One of the arguments used on behalf of the Government at the time of the establishment of the Land Court was that it would be a tribunal strong enough to withstand the pressure of the popular Party; and yet now, as soon as pressure of that kind was exercised in connection with that tribunal, the Government gave way. If the business of the Sub-Commissioners had not been expedited by the appointment of the land valuers, the reason was very simple. These valuers, who were experts, were three or four times as long about valuing a farm as the Sub-Commissioners, who discharged the duties of valuations in a very perfunctory manner. If farms were to be valued fairly, business could not be got through more quickly than at present. That the employment of valuers had not resulted in a reduction of the number of appeals was no fault of theirs. As long as varying decisions were given by the Commissioners on the question of fair rent, there would, of course, be appeals. The serious part of the position of the Government was that they were usurping functions which, if not legally, at least morally, did not belong to them. The Land Commission had the power to appoint valuers, and, under the Land Act, the Executive had no right to interfere. But because the action of the valuers was influencing a certain number of votes in the North of Ireland, the Government made an

unfair use—"Oh!"—of the powers vested by the Land Act in the Treasury, with the object of counteracting that influence. It was notorious that the change in the views of the Government was the result of pressure exercised upon them from the North of Ireland. Where was this to end? Would not every succeeding Government be apt to submit itself in the same way to popular pressure? The Prime Minister, at the commencement of the Session, denounced a proposed Committee, on the ground that its investigations would interfere with the judicial decisions under the Land Act. The right hon. Gentleman said—

"That the object of Parliament had been to fence the Land Commission round so that nobody could interfere with it."

Yet the moment that the right hon. Gentleman found himself subjected to pressure from his own supporters he exercised, in a most improper manner, that very interference which he deprecated but a few months ago. The decision of the Government would destroy the efficacy of the Land Act, so far as quiet and contentment were concerned. The tenants of Ireland believed that these valuers had been dismissed because their decisions had resulted in a less reduction of rent than previously. That being the prevalent belief, the landlords would naturally feel that the Government had made an unfair use of their powers, for the purpose of conciliating the tenants, some of whom had been known to threaten that they would turn Land Leaguers if their rents were not reduced. The tenants were naturally under the impression that pecuniary benefit was connected with the giving of a vote on behalf of the Liberal Party. The Government had arrived at their present decision because pressure had been brought to bear upon them by the tenant farmers of the North of Ireland, in the hope of getting a greater reduction of rent than they thought they would obtain under existing circumstances. The great mass of the landlords in the North of Ireland were Conservatives, and the tenants Liberals; and the Government were about to purchase political support by confiscating the property of those who were opposed to them in opinion.

MR. MACARTNEY objected to the change of policy on the part of the Government, because every new change

led people to believe in further changes, and not to wait until they saw whether they might be benefited by what was to be done. Men skilled in the valuing of land were to be laid aside, and lawyers were to occupy the chief positions. Landholders were excluded because they were landowners. Tenants were not excluded; but they ought to be excluded as well as the landlords, if fair play were done, because they were on the other side. There were 17 Land Commissions, on which there was one legal Commissioner and two lay Commissioners. Therefore, 34 new men would be required. But when the House recollected the criticisms passed upon some former appointments, they would come to the conclusion that the Government would have very great difficulty in finding 34 fit men. The new men would be inexperienced; and, therefore, when one of them went out to examine land with his senior, he would naturally follow the judgment of the latter, and therefore it would be just as well if the more experienced Commissioner had gone out alone. There was nothing in which people could have so little confidence as in a Government which was so constantly changing, which did not know its own mind, and which was always setting its sails to the popular wind. His hon. Colleague (Mr. T. A. Dickson), the most prominent man in the agitation, had prophesied that before the end of three months the whole of the late arrangement would be knocked on the head, and so it was. But this uncertainty had exercised the most baneful influence upon the country—it had prevented some from going into Court, and had induced others to withdraw, in the hope that there would be another batch of Commissioners who would lower rents still more. There was another element in the case which should not be overlooked. Those who could not pay had not gone into Court; but many who could had stopped back, because they believed that the Government would give them a longer time, and now they would be “sold,” because they would find themselves unable to go into Court; and as to the Irish proprietors, he was not one of those who wished to be bought out or forced to leave the country to which he and others were as much attached as any peasant could be. Many of the Irish proprietors were of old

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Irish descent, quite as much as those who professed alone to represent the Irish people, and why they should be brought out any more than the peasants he could not see. This he would say—that until even-handed justice was done between man and man no Government would obtain the respect of the Irish people.

Mr. LEA apologized for the absence of the hon. Member for Tyrone (Mr. T. A. Dickson), who had just been referred to. The hon. Member stayed in the House several days awaiting this discussion, and would have come over to-day had he expected it to come on. All he had done was to tell the farmers that if they found the working of the Land Act was slower under the system of Court valuers they might rely upon the promise of the Chief Secretary that it should be discontinued. Whilst the tenant farmers of the North of Ireland desired that this Land Act should be final, they had a perfect right to demand a just administration of that Act. The right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Gibson) had stated that what was now being done by the Government was a great change. It was nothing of the kind; it was simply reverting to the old system. For 12 months the Land Act worked in a fairly reasonable manner, but slowly, and the Government tried to expedite its working; but the plan they adopted failed, and consequently they reverted to the old practice. He hoped the Chief Secretary would not allow himself to be browbeaten by the speeches of right hon. and hon. Gentlemen opposite, who, a few months ago, could find no charges strong enough to bring against the Sub-Commissioners, nor allow anything of that kind to prevent him from carrying out the intentions the House had in passing the Act. The object of the Act was to make the property of the tenant of land in Ireland equally sacred in the eyes of the law, and equally safe with that of the landlord. He believed that under the system which the Government were abandoning that intention was not fully carried out; and he urged them to maintain the Land Act in its integrity, and to give the protection which was necessary to attain the objects for which it was passed.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, that the object of his right hon. and learned Friend (Mr. Gibson) in

moving the adjournment of the House was to enter his protest, in the strongest possible manner, at the earliest moment available to a Member of Parliament, against the constant interference which had been going on since the Royal Assent had been given to the Land Act on the part of the Irish Executive with a judicial body—an interference which had been carried to such an extent as positively to amount to a pollution of justice—[“Hear!” and a laugh]—he repeated, to a pollution of justice, which would have been stigmatized as disgraceful if it had occurred in a Turkish Pashalik. It was clear that there was a most unconstitutional—he might say an incestuous—connection between the Commission in Merrion Street and Dublin Castle, though no unconstitutional practice had in time past been more strenuously or more successfully resisted than an interference with a Court of Justice. Now, the valuers, about whom so much fuss had been made, were appointed in strict pursuance of the Act, and in accordance with the repeated recommendations of the Commissioners themselves. That the Act itself contemplated their appointment was evident from the words of the 37th section, which provided that the Court might direct an independent valuer to report to it his opinion on any matter referred to him by the Court, such Report to be accompanied by a statement of the circumstances of the case. The valuers, in fact, were appointed by the Court, and the principle of valuation was not only admitted, but also recommended by the section he had quoted. Now, however, the valuers were to be put an end to by the Government after only six weeks’ experience of their services, and without any valid reason alleged. In that six weeks probably no more than about 200 cases had been tried; but had they shown the incompetence of the valuers? If so, let the Chief Secretary say in what part of their technical work there had been a miscarriage of justice. But, after all, who had complained of their conduct? The details of the agitation against them ought to be before the House; but the House was never allowed to have details, and had to be content with the generalities which were so easily swallowed by the Prime Minister’s supporters. The late Chief Secretary had said that the appeals did not diminish; but why should

they diminish? [*A laugh.*] He should like to ask the Prime Minister, who seemed so merry, why measures should be taken either to diminish the appeals under the Act, or, for the matter of that, to increase them? What, in short, was the title of the Government to interfere with the administration of a law? Only the other day he had heard the Chief Secretary say that he had written to the Commissioners with respect to the interpretation of the Hanging Gale Clause, and had impressed upon them the expediency of giving a decision on that point. Was ever such a thing done in England? And yet the Chief Secretary had told the Commissioners to do this, with or without a case before them, in order to suit the convenience of the Government. He wondered whether any Government would attempt so to degrade an English Court. As for the action of the valuers, he presumed that their decisions, being based on a knowledge of the value of land, would tend to diminish the number of appeals; and he believed that, contrary to the view of the hon. and learned Member for Dundalk (Mr. C. Russell), it was most undesirable that they should be placed in the power of litigants by the publication of their Reports. The Prime Minister said that in a document, which he declined to produce, the two reasons appeared which induced the Government to appoint these valuers—namely, that their employment would increase the rapidity of the tribunals, and would diminish the number of appeals. Those were the only reasons given by the right hon. Gentleman; but how could the right hon. Gentleman be sure that the Commissioners had given all their reasons? If they had done so, it was very doubtful whether they would have been listened to by the Government. In all human probability, other reasons influenced them also; but they had either not placed them on record or had stated them in the second document which existed on this subject, but which the Government declined to produce. The truth was that the object of the Government was becoming clearer and clearer every day. The intention was to reduce Irish rents all round, with an utter disregard of right and wrong; to reduce them largely when the country was disturbed, and more moderately in times of peace. As to doing justice alike to landlord and

tenant, that never entered the Prime Minister's head. He was always appealing to the divine right of justice; but ever since the Land Act passed the divine right of justice had been outraged and repudiated. There was no doubt that public opinion in England was shocked at the enormous and inconsiderate deductions of rent first made by the Sub-Commissioners—reductions which were made in the teeth of all the predictions and assurances of Members of the Government. No doubt, the reductions exercised for a moment a pacifying effect on the National feeling of Ireland. In addition, there had been the Kilmainham Treaty; after that Ireland became a little quieter; and then it was that this application of the Land Commission for the appointment of additional valuers had some slight chance of favourable consideration from the Government. The consequence was that in some cases, which excited a good deal of attention at the time, the reduction of rents was not quite so large, and there was a greater approach to divine justice. There was a tremendous outcry at once. The noble Lord the Member for Middlesex (Lord George Hamilton) said the Government yielded entirely on account of the outcry from Ulster. He did not think the Government cared twopence half-penny about Ulster; it might cry and complain as long as it liked against the Court valuers if other things had not happened. There was an apparent probability that treason and all the offshoots of treason were again likely to raise their heads. He had never noticed that the chameleon-like and versatile eloquence of the Members for Ulster had exercised any influence on the Government. The only Party which did so, and which gained the ear of the Prime Minister, was the Party led by the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell), the Party to the Kilmainham Treaty. A short time ago the attempt to murder an Irish Judge revived the memory of the murders in the Phoenix Park. Lately, there had been several incendiary speeches, reminding one of those which preceded the agitation of 1880. Her Majesty's Government quailed at once. When the House met Questions were put about the Court valuers. At that moment, apparently, the Government stood firm. But events had occurred since; and it

was now seen in the answer of the Chief Secretary what effect they had had on the mind of the Government. It at once attempted to fall back on the old practice, and to buy off agitation. It arranged for rents to be reduced down to the old iniquitous standard of reduction, and that in the most insidious and malignant manner that could be adopted, for it could not have been done with more effrontery. They abolished the Court valuers, and said they were going to appoint additional lay Commissioners. What was the difference between them? The valuers were appointed by the Land Commissioners, a judicial body—at least, so far as the Government would allow it to be. The Court valuers were, in every sense of the word, specialists and experts acquainted with the science of valuing land. The Assistant Commissioners were appointed by the Government, and were nothing more or less than Government agents and tools, sensible to the slightest impression from Dublin Castle, and summoned from time to time to meet the Chief Secretary there if the original practice were still continued. The Prime Minister would have made the error of stating that there was to be no additional cost if the Chief Secretary had not corrected him. The valuers were to be got rid of, and there was to be a new set of men, picked up, Heaven knows where, who would command the confidence of none but the lowest class of the Irish people. The best barometer to indicate whether Ireland was peaceable or disturbed was the working of the Land Act. When Ireland was peaceable landlords were more mercifully treated; but when it was disturbed the more unblushingly and mercilessly was their property torn from them. The House could depend upon it that Ireland was getting into a more disturbed state on account of the announcement the Government had made that night. The Prime Minister had said that the object was to expedite the proceedings of the Land Commission; that merely meant that the reducing of rents all over Ireland was to proceed at express speed without the slightest regard to justice, allowing all the tenants to come in, not one by one, but simultaneously, to share the plunder. That was the process by which the Prime Minister told them confidence was to be restored, industrial enterprize

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to be established, and the fact proclaimed to the world at large that the relations between landlord and tenant were placed on a permanent and enduring basis. Certainly the right hon. Gentleman had most extraordinary methods of attaining his ends. The last step he had taken would do more than any other to frighten capital away from Ireland. In conclusion, he wished to ask an abstract question of the Government, which had some bearing on events now going on in Ireland—a question that, perhaps, the Chief Secretary would answer, although if the right hon. Gentleman did not answer it he (Lord Randolph Churchill) would put it to the public. His question was this—Who was the greatest criminal—he who, to secure the acquittal or to avenge the convictions of a murderer, stabbed a juryman in the street; or he who, to buy off political agitation, corrupted and poisoned the pure source of justice and assassinated justice? [*Groans.*] He should not be in the least disturbed by those expressions of disapproval. The course the Government had taken that night justified him in metaphorically asserting that they had assassinated the Courts of Justice; and he asked which was the greatest criminal—the man he had mentioned, or he who had assassinated a Court of Justice arbitrating between man and man? Which of those two parties was the most likely to inflict the most enduring and lasting misery on unfortunate Ireland?

MR. TREVELYAN confessed that he rose to reply with a feeling of some warmth, which, however, had not been increased, but rather diminished by the terrible interrogatory which had just been administered to him. He had listened to the speech of the noble Lord with the usual interest, and with no other feeling except, perhaps, a feeling that the general powers of political attack which the noble Lord undoubtedly possessed had suffered from the fact that his argument was somewhat overdrawn. From first to last too hot and high a tone had been given to the debate. The right hon. and learned Gentleman, who had brought it on at a certain inconvenience to the House, went to Manchester, and, with great gravity and solemnity, charged him with having made a speech which no Minister ought to have made. At other places, and

even before his own (Mr. Trevelyan's) constituents, the right hon. and learned Gentleman said he had not given an answer which was called for. At last the right hon. and learned Gentleman said he had got him face to face and would have an answer, and when he had risen to give it the right hon. and learned Gentleman was not present. The question had been stated to the House by the two right hon. and learned Members for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson and Mr. Plunket), and by the hon. Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham), who never understood his case, and he would now proceed to answer them without replying to the attacks that had been made on the Government. The Government had been attacked from both sides of the House with reference to the appointment of valuers; but the Government had done its best to be painstaking and impartial in looking into the subject. Last Session many Members spoke to the effect that the Land Act was too slow in its operation, and the hon. Member for Monaghan (Mr. Givan) had brought in a Bill at the beginning of the Session to deal with the matter. At a later period men on both sides in politics and on agrarian politics united in saying that there would soon be a block in the Land Courts. Mr. Nicholl said that in Kerry two sets of Commissioners were required. Mr. Orr stated that it would take, at the then rate of progress, eight or ten years. Mr. Cottrell said that the number of cases waiting to be disposed of was enormous, and could not be got through in a reasonable time. Everybody agreed that the delay would amount to a denial of justice. It was true that a much more encouraging view was taken by official persons—by Mr. Litton, Mr. Godley, Secretary to the Land Commission, and Justice O'Hagan. Justice O'Hagan thought that by the end of 1883 all the cases would be disposed of. The Government felt it was a serious thing that there should be this delay, which would prevent the people from applying to the Land Courts, and in August they began to consider the matter, in order to see what could be done to facilitate the speedy hearing of all cases before the Courts. The Government consulted the Land Commissioners, so far they could within the limits of the Statute. With respect to the constitution of the Land Courts, the Go-

vernment felt themselves to be responsible. At the same time, they would have been to blame if they had not consulted those who were working the Act, and held the position, and were acquiring the qualities of Judges. Accordingly, in August last, the Land Commission submitted to the Government a proposal intended to increase the expedition of trials and to diminish the number of appeals of which the essential features were—first, that each Sub-Commission should consist of three members, two legal and one lay Commissioner; secondly, that a valuer should be attached to each Sub-Commission; and, thirdly, that the legal Sub-Commissioner should sit in Court with one lay Commissioner, and that the remaining one should be engaged in valuing the fields. That was the expectation of the Commission and the Government, and on the question whether or not that expectation was realized the present controversy turned. He would not enter on the question whether the House of Commons did or did not declare itself against the appointment of those valuers during the debates on the Bill. He perfectly agreed with the noble Lord the Member for Middlesex (Lord George Hamilton), who showed that Section 47 of the Act clearly substantiated the right of the Government to appoint valuers. The Land Commission appointed 17 valuers, one of whom was attached to each Sub-Commission. These appointments at once attracted considerable attention, and roused a wide-spread feeling of apprehension; for, first of all, the valuation was to be made summarily, and then, also, it was not to be subject to cross-examination. He was bound to say—and he had given reasons to a deputation which waited on him on the subject for his opinion—that the apprehension was quite unfounded. But the real objection was as to the personal characteristics of the men, and to the name which they bore. It was said, and believed, that the men chosen were notoriously in the interests of the landowning class, whose sympathies were with the landlords against the tenants; and that Protestants had been appointed to the exclusion of Catholics. Now, he challenged the confidence both of Ulster tenants and Southern tenants in these men. If Catholics could not trust Lord

O'Hagan, and if tenants could not trust Mr. Litton, he did not know who could be trusted by men of any religion or of any class. On what principle did they proceed to selection? On this point the Commissioners say—

"We must at once assume our proper share of the responsibility. The proposal to adopt the system of valuers emanated from us. We saw several candidates, made inquiries into their qualifications, and named the men who seemed to be the fittest, and as to their religion, we never dreamed of asking a question on this subject."

MR. PLUNKET asked from what the right hon. Gentleman was quoting?

MR. TREVELYAN said, he ought to have stated that as coming from the Land Commissioners, and he frankly confessed he had been taking a liberty with the House; but he would see if the Land Commissioners would allow him to lay the document on the Table.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: I wish your ruling, Sir, as to whether it is in the power of any Minister to quote from any document which he is not prepared to lay on the Table?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (MR. LYON PLAYFAIR): The right hon. Gentleman has already declared that he committed an irregularity; but that he would try to put himself in Order by putting it on the Table.

MR. E. STANHOPE: I understand from your ruling that the right hon. Gentleman is bound to lay it on the Table?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (MR. LYON PLAYFAIR): He mentioned that he had committed an irregularity; and, according to the Rules of the House, he has no right to quote from a document which is not on the Table, if any objection is made.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that he could not withdraw what he had said, and in the interests of the persons concerned he should be sorry to do so. What was the result? The result was that a body of men had been appointed valuers who were of the same class as the Sub-Commissioners appointed by the right hon. Member for Bradford (MR. W. E. FORSTER). The difference was that they gave their attention to the valuation of the land and the improvements that had been effected, by personal inspection on the land itself, without having the duty of settling in Court what value should be set on those improvements.

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Undoubtedly the existence of an apprehension that the Land Act would be worked in a manner unfavourable to the tenants was a very serious matter to the Executive Government, for, in his opinion, the fair and impartial working of the Act was essential to peace. It was a serious fact that general anxiety and panic, or something like a panic, did exist towards the end of last September. It found vent in newspapers and in speeches, and eventually in a large deputation of Ulster tenant farmers, which waited on him at Dublin Castle. He could quote speeches which were made which would show that their anxiety was great and their apprehension genuine, that the valuers were men who were entirely in the interests of the landlords, and who would decide against the tenants. These expressions on the part of sincere and representative men were a very serious matter indeed; and it was his evident and plain duty to re-assure the minds of the tenants. If, in his own mind, he believed the changes recently made had not impaired the impartiality of the Land Courts, the undoubted belief of the tenants was that the valuers were prejudiced against them in every possible manner, and that they could not get justice. He (Mr. Trevelyan), on the other hand, did entertain the belief that they would have justice done them when they came before the Sub-Commissioners, and was lately provided with an actual case where the valuer had fixed the rent lower than the Sub-Commissioners. He had absolute evidence, in his own opinion, that they were not the creatures of the landlords, as was supposed; and he felt it to be his duty to make the fact public, and he believed in doing it he checked a feeling which, if not settled at the outset, must have been dangerous to the country. Some thought that in his desire to re-assure the minds of the tenants he went too far. In a passage to which great exception had been taken he said it must be remembered that, after all, the valuer was not the Judge; and if the tenants found that the decisions under the new system were much the same as those under the old—and he believed they would be so, because the decisions under the latter were not inconsistent with justice—and if appeals were found to be less frequent, then the tenants of Ireland would gain very dis-

tinctly, and the landlords too. That and other passages of the same character had been taken exception to. It was urged that the tenants, who, broadly speaking, were one of the parties to a suit, came to complain of decisions that were likely to be adverse to them, and that a Member of the Government reassured them by giving details as to such decisions. Now, if he had his own way, he would never answer in the House a single Question as to the decisions of the Land Commissioners, the Sub-Commissioners, or the Reports of the valuers; but a Member of the Government, in the presence of a popular Assembly, which really was the ruler of the country, and could override precedent and principle, was not his own master. This Session hon. Gentlemen had come down to the House and put to him Questions, not as to the average decisions, but as to special decisions of the Commissions, in which landlords were specially interested. On the 30th of June the hon. Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham) asked him such a Question relative to the decision of the Commissioners sitting to hear an appeal at Castlebar. The noble Lord the Member for Liverpool (Lord Claud Hamilton)—the brother of the noble Lord the Member for Middlesex, who had to-night made such severe remarks on his conduct for entering into explanations with tenants as to decisions in the Land Court—came down and asked him a Question in regard to certain appeals heard at Castlebar from judicial rents fixed by Sub-Commissioners; and whether, in cases of such marked discrepancy between the opinion of the official valuer and the decision of the Court, the Government would provide a further appeal? Then the hon. Member for Portarlington (Mr. Fitzpatrick) asked several Questions as to special decisions given by Sub-Commissioner Thomas Meek; and the hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton)—on behalf, he presumed, of some Irish Member—asked him a Question with reference to some decisions in connection with the estate of Mr. Stuart Knox. Those, then, were four representative Irish Conservatives, all of them calling his attention to decisions of Commissioners or Sub-Commissioners, and requesting answers of exactly the same nature as those which he was blamed

for giving to the tenant farmers on the 4th of October. It was not enough for him to give general assurances of the impartiality of the Commissioners; he was obliged to enter into details. Did the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson), or the hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Lewis)—who always had a Motion on the Paper on the subject—object to his answering the Questions addressed to him? If they had objected and had supported him, if they had not backed up their brother Members of their own Party by their countenance, he might have refused to answer at all. But he was placed in a position in which, without extreme discourtesy, he was bound to answer Questions about judicial decisions; and if he did that he was bound to treat all alike. When landlords came to express their apprehensions he did his best to re-assure them; and when tenants came to express their apprehensions, if he shut his mouth and refused to do his best to re-assure them, he should be the Minister of a class and not of the whole country. When the hon. Member for West Surrey (Mr. Brodrick), who might from his interest almost be called an Irish Member, asked him whether he was aware that reductions of 39 per cent had been made by a Special Commissioner, he answered that that was not the case, but that the reduction was only to the extent of 26 per cent, and did any right hon. or hon. Gentleman opposite then object? That was an instance exactly analogous to that in which the tenants came and asked him if the reductions were 15 per cent, and his replying—"No; they are 20." It was necessary that on this occasion he should correct the statements made on all sides by Members of the House. The real fact was that the percentages of the reductions of rent had varied very much less than many hon. Gentlemen supposed. Up to the commencement of January, 1882, the average reduction for all Ireland was 23 per cent; up to the 15th of April it was 20 per cent; up to the 31st of May, 21 per cent; up to the month of June it was 20 per cent; up to July, 19 per cent; up to August, 18 per cent. Under the new system, when the valuers were in office, the reductions were down to 17 per cent. It appeared to him, though it did not seem to be so to some hon.

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Members, that those reductions were equable, gradual, and perfectly explicable, on the ground that the worst cases came forward first, and that he was, therefore, defending Courts whose action was perfectly defensible. But the right hon. and learned Gentleman had a more serious objection, because he alleged that by his conduct on the 4th of October he had made the Government responsible for the judicial administration of the Land Act. That charge in the mouth of the noble Lord (Lord Randolph Churchill) took almost terrible dimensions, for he said that by the action of the Executive Government with a judicial body there was a pollution of justice as black and shameful as would disgrace any Pashalik in Asia Minor. Why, it was asked, could they not leave that Court alone, like any other Court of Justice? He could not understand how the right hon. and learned Gentleman could reconcile that charge with the policy pursued last Session by himself and his Friends. If the Executive Government had no legitimate influence over the administration of the Land Commission, what was the meaning of the Question addressed to the Representatives of the Executive Government in the House as to the action of the Land Commission and its officers? Perpetually Questions were addressed to him which could only have one meaning—namely, that he should bring some influence to bear on the Land Commissioners in order that some of their officers should be censured, shifted, or removed. The senior Member for Dublin University (Mr. Plunket) had asked whether he was aware that Mr. J. G. MacCarthy, a Sub-Commissioner, was acting judicially in a district with which he was professionally connected; and whether he would suggest to the Commissioners the advisability of making some other arrangement for the Sub-Commission in that district? The noble Lord the Member for Downshire (Lord Arthur Hill) had asked him to interfere in the case of a Sub-Commissioner against whom he brought specific charges of having business relations with people which would not allow him to be impartial. The right hon. and learned Gentleman himself who introduced that Motion had asked him to represent to the Irish Land Commission that it was not just or expedient to employ Assistant Commissioners to act as

Judges in localities in which they were now or were recently connected by residence and occupation. The meaning of that was that a special Judge should be removed from a special district. What meaning had those Questions except that the Executive Government were to use certain influence with the Land Commission; and if he gave an evasive answer he would be met, he would not say by murmurs, but by expressions of dissatisfaction in the House? On another occasion he told the right hon. and learned Gentleman that a Sub-Commissioner had been shifted; and, instead of expressing any disapproval, the right hon. and learned Gentleman smiled very benignly and expressed a most serene satisfaction. The conduct of the Government in the House showed that the apprehensions of the landlords were unfounded, and that their interests were being duly consulted; and if the Government gave the same assurance to the tenants he did not think anyone could complain. Indeed, between the two operations he could not see any difference whatever. He now proposed to meet the practical question before them. The reason why the Government had asked the advice of the Land Commission with reference to these valuers was not that they were themselves dissatisfied with the judgment of the Sub-Commissioners, but because they thought the Courts did not work fast enough. It was impossible to tell this at first, although the result was certainly prophesied, because during the earlier part of that Session they could not ascertain for certain the pace of the Courts, and that was the real explanation of the seeming inconsistency of Her Majesty's Government. Five or six weeks ago it was said that the Government had expressed confidence in the valuers; but they did not say anything about the rapidity of their work, because they had not then sufficient experience. They now possessed that experience, and, considering the very great additional burden upon the Exchequer, the advantage gained by their labours was extremely and almost infinitesimally small. In the six weeks ending August 19, 16 Sub-Commissioners' Courts fixed 2,677 fair rents—it would be very unfair to take the earlier weeks, because they had not got into working order. In the six weeks ending November 16, 17 Sub-

Commissioners' Courts were working, and they fixed 2,788 fair rents, so that by the addition of 17 valuers with the same salary as the Sub-Commissioners they got in the course of six weeks only 100 additional cases disposed of out of a total of nearly 3,000. On the question of appeals, it was not the case that all the appeals were for cases decided before the change. The total appeals up to the 18th of September were 3,714, and since the 18th of September 1,127. If they compared this with the number of fair rents fixed, they would find that, while the Sub-Commissioners were working without the aid of valuers, the percentage of appeals was a little over 25 per cent. Since they had been working with the aid of valuers, the percentage had been a little over 27 per cent. These appeals were an equal grievance to both parties, and the Government were very anxious to avoid them. The principal reason for the appeals, in the belief of the litigants, was that the valuer had not sufficient time to value the land. The Government were anxious to meet a feeling of that sort by adding two pairs of Sub-Commissioners to each legal Commissioner, so that the Sub-Commissioners might have abundant and over-abundant time to examine each case. They were satisfied by the double staff they would keep the legal Commissioners employed, and with a little expenditure of money they would have a Court which would do to secure justice to all parties, and they earnestly hoped that soon both parties would come to acknowledge it. It might be that some disappointment had been felt by those who had watched the operation of the Act. The Act worked slowly, it was true; but not really as slowly as would, perhaps, appear on the surface. But it was not merely that fair rents were being fixed, it was the great and widespread tranquillity it caused, and its operation as a settlement between landlord and tenant over the whole face of Ireland that made it the most valuable. They were continually hearing that first one landlord and then another had made arrangements under it. Statistics had been placed in his hand which showed the work of one single man in valuing farms for the purpose of settlements, and they stated that he had traversed eight counties, and had visited the holdings of 1,228 tenants, of

whom 72 went into Court, while 94 per cent of the total number of 1,156 made arrangements in a friendly manner. He did not think it was too much to hope that that was a process which had been going on since the beginning of the Land Act, both in the Courts as they were originally arranged, and he believed it would go on under the Courts as they were now to be arranged. Throughout the whole of their scheme the Government had tried to do justice to both parties, and to restore friendly relations between the two classes, in the hope and expectation that in so doing they might bring peace, quiet, and goodwill to Ireland.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, that the right hon. Gentleman had devoted a good deal of his speech to the defence of the valuers; but, in his opinion, they were a class very detrimental to the peace of Ireland; indeed, he considered them as some of its worst enemies. But whatever else his speech might have shown, it proved conclusively that the Government had never made up their minds, but drifted from one opinion to another. Before, however, dealing with that consideration, he wished to refer to what fell from the Prime Minister. His speech was divided into two parts—the first comprising a defence of his own conduct; and the second a most glowing and impassioned prophecy of the magnificent results which would unquestionably follow this new phase of his Irish policy. For his own part, he had become rather wearied of these perpetual prophecies of the triumphant successes of the present Administration; he wished to see more of the practical growth of the country and less of these glowing anticipations of the Prime Minister. The Chief Secretary had told them that the object of these changes was to secure the confidence, not of one section, but of both sections of the Irish people, and he laid great stress on the fact that he had endeavoured to gain the confidence of the landlords of Ireland. If that were so, he had signally failed. There had been that night a significant silence on the part of those who aspired to represent the tenantry of Ireland, and one voice only had been heard from those Benches during that debate. With a great deal that had been said by the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell) he was not indisposed to agree. When the hon. Member entreated the Government to

cease from this perpetual patchwork—this perpetual alteration in the administration of the law—and to let the people of Ireland know what they intended to do, and to adhere like men to their declarations, he cordially agreed with him. But he did not agree with the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary in thinking that it was part of the duty of the Irish Executive to be perpetually interfering with the mechanism and arrangements of the Land Commission. He was astonished when he heard the right hon. Gentleman say that, because Questions were continually being asked with regard to particular decisions of the Commissioners and Sub-Commissioners, hon. Members who put those Questions showed that they regarded the Land Court as merely a branch of the Executive Government. Before his connection with Ireland, had the right hon. Gentleman not heard Questions continually put by English, Scotch, and Welsh Members as to the decisions of various Courts; and did he or anyone suppose that the Members who asked, or the Home Secretary who replied to, those Questions regarded those Courts as forming any part of the Executive Government? There was one point he wished particularly to refer to. During the course of the debate the Chief Secretary had referred to an official document which had not been laid upon the Table of the House. The Prime Minister also referred to an official document, and led the House to understand that he was giving the House the meaning of that document. He referred to the document in respect of two points. One was that he was led to believe that increased speed would be obtained by the appointment of valuers, and the other that there would be a considerable diminution of appeals if they were appointed. The Prime Minister said that he consented to the change on that condition, and as that had not been fulfilled, the Government were perfectly right in reversing their policy. According to the universal practice of Parliament, the document to which the Prime Minister had referred ought not to be withheld from the House of Commons. He earnestly pressed the Prime Minister to permit that document to become the property of the House. That observation applied with far greater force to the document quoted *in extenso*

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by the Chief Secretary. He trusted that the House might rely upon the production of that document. He had noticed with considerable interest the reference of the Chief Secretary to the valuable results of the labours of the Lords' Committee on the Land Act. A few months ago the labours of the House of Commons were interrupted, and a list of measures—the loss of which the Prime Minister had never ceased to deplore—was put aside, in order that the House of Lords should be censured for instituting that inquiry. He heard, therefore, with very great pleasure the reference of the right hon. Gentleman to the valuable evidence that had been taken by that Committee. He hoped that in future the House of Lords, in the exercise of its undoubted rights, would be allowed to institute important inquiries upon subjects of great public interest without a Liberal Minister again interfering with the proper proceedings of the House of Commons for the purpose of denouncing the legitimate action of the House of Lords. The first defence of the conduct of the Government put forward that night came from the right hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster), who said that a legal point was involved; and the right hon. Gentleman taxed his ingenuity to show that Her Majesty's Government were expressly debarred by Act of Parliament from appointing valuers. That was rather a left-handed defence of the Government, because in its very statement it condemned their action. The right hon. Gentleman went on to say that his Successor might have acted inadvertently—that he might not have had the purport of this section brought to his notice before he consented to the appointment of valuers. The right hon. Gentleman must have forgotten that Lord Spencer, who was a consenting party, was a leading Member of the Cabinet when the Act was passed, and that the Prime Minister was the leading spirit all through those debates. It must have struck the right hon. Gentleman with astonishment that it should have been reserved for himself and Lord Spencer to be the sole proper expositors of the legal meaning of that Act of Parliament. And here he was reminded that the same Law Officers not improbably were consulted upon both occasions, and gave their valuable advice.

Were they to understand from the right hon. Member for Bradford that the Law Officers who had been consulted by him gave different advice from the Law Officers whom his Successor consulted, they being identically the same Gentlemen? What must the right hon. Gentleman have thought of the soundness of his legal argument when the reply came to it, not from hon. Gentlemen on that (the Opposition) side, but from the hon. and learned Member for Dundalk (Mr. Charles Russell)? And now they had it admitted that the appointment of valuers was strictly legal and Constitutional; while half of the speech of the right hon. Gentleman who had just sat down went to show how admirably the appointment of valuers had worked, how fully their conduct justified the Land Commission in appointing them, how well they had discharged their duties, and what increased confidence they had given in the administration of the Act. And having shown all that, the rest of the speech of the right hon. Gentleman was devoted to the lamest possible reasons why this admirable body of men were to be dismissed and a new set of gentlemen called in. And what did it all come to? To a question of speed. They did their work too slowly; it was necessary to get on with greater rapidity. Never mind whether the work was done well or ill, so it was done quickly. Let us hurry on to the end of the chapter, and it would be found that two Sub-Commissioners would be more likely to expedite business than any valuer. Now, he altogether disputed that view of the case. He greatly doubted the stability of this great speed. And as for diminishing appeals, the speech of the right hon. Gentleman could not but have a very considerable effect in increasing the number of appeals from the judgment of gentlemen who were appointed under such conditions and with such objects. He regretted to hear the vindication which the right hon. Gentleman had made of these last appointments by Her Majesty's Government, and that the connection between Dublin Castle and the Land Commission had been so plainly admitted. He regretted many incidents in this debate; but there was one thing which he did not regret, and that was that the New Resolutions of the Prime Minister had afforded to his

right hon. and learned Friend the opportunity, of which he had availed himself, of calling the attention of the House, and through the House of the country, to the latest instance of vacillation and change of policy on the part of Her Majesty's Government in connection with Ireland.

Question put, and *negatived*.

[The following is the Entry in the Votes.]

Mr. Gibson, Member for the University of Dublin, rose in his place, and asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance; but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those Members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and not less than forty Members having accordingly risen in their places:—

Motion made, and Question proposed, "That this House do now adjourn:—" (*Mr. Gibson* :)
—Question put, and *negatived*.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

II. STANDING COMMITTEES.

RESOLUTION 1 (STANDING COMMITTEES ON LAW AND COURTS OF JUSTICE, TRADE, &c.)

[ADJOURNED DEBATE.] [THIRTY-FIRST NIGHT.]

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Amendment proposed to Question [27th November],

"That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may be committed to them respectively."—(*Mr. Gladstone*.)

And which Amendment was,

To leave out from the word "That" to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "it is not expedient to consider the matter of the proposed Resolution at this period of the Session,"—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*),

—instead thereof.

Question again proposed, "That the word 'two' stand part of the Question."

Debate resumed.

Lord John Manners

CAPTAIN AYLMER said, he thought the House was entitled to hear some further explanation of the Resolution the Prime Minister had brought before them. The most deadly enemies of the Resolution could not have pulled it to pieces more effectively than two hon. Gentlemen sitting on the other side—the hon. Member for Cambridge (Mr. W. Fowler) and the hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Norwood). The right hon. Member for Bradford (Mr. W. E. Forster) summed up the whole of his argument in defence of the Resolution in a word by saying that they ought to pass it because it was an experiment. The right hon. Gentleman must have forgotten that the House had been engaged for the last five weeks in experimenting, and trying to revolutionize the Procedure of the House. But the experiment of that evening, when 40 Members were sufficient to enable the adjournment of the House to be moved, would prove to Her Majesty's Government that the changes made would not be so satisfactory to them as they thought. Last night the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board had entirely broken down in his attempt to answer the speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin. He honestly thought that every Member of the House, if left to himself, would be glad to end this Session, of which he, for one, was heartily sick and tired. A strong argument in favour of the Amendment was afforded by the remarks of the Prime Minister, who, during the last two or three weeks, had been constantly calling for the attention of the very small attendance of Members at the debates on the Procedure Resolutions. He thought the right hon. Gentleman spoke the truth when he said these Grand Committees would "multiply the voices of the House." The speechifying in the Committees would tend to increase the amount of talk in the House itself, for hon. Members who had been defeated upstairs would renew their opposition on the third reading stage, and would thus initiate an additional debate. The Resolution provided that all Bills relating to law or trade should be referred to one of the Standing Committees; but, as the President of the Board of Trade had pointed out, there was a saving clause—"Unless the House should other-

wise order." But what did those words mean, and how was the House to order it? While the Government were asking the House to reduce the number of the stages of a Bill, they were really by these words introducing a new stage, because a proposal to refer a measure to a Standing Committee might be met by a Motion that it should be referred to a Committee of the Whole House, and thereupon a debate would arise. Having regard to the fact that there were now several Parties in the House, he thought that the Committee of Selection would have great difficulty in deciding on the composition of the Committee. One of the effects of the Government proposal would be that the veto which the House possessed on the proceedings of Committees upstairs would be much more frequently applied than heretofore. In his opinion, the duties to be imposed on the Chairmen of these Committees were so onerous that they would have to be appointed as officers of the House, and receive a remuneration. The proposal of the Government was a mistake, and before any great lapse of time it would, he believed, break down. He hoped the Amendment of his right hon. Friend would be carried.

MR. GORST said, that before the House divided he was anxious to say a few words in order to explain why he intended to vote for the Amendment which his right hon. Friend the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross) had moved. When his right hon. Friend first moved the Amendment he confessed that he felt a strong dislike to it. He quite recognized that the Resolutions in reference to Standing Committees were of a very important character. He had thought, whether rightly or wrongly, at all events sincerely—that the previous Resolutions proposed by the Prime Minister greatly abridged the privileges of Members of that House, and therefore he had accepted them with extreme reluctance. The present Resolutions were certainly not of that character; they were of a different class, and nobody could say that the plan was one which greatly detracted from the responsibility or security of Members of that House. Therefore, as the House had spent so many days in discussing the previous Resolutions, he had been most anxious that the Prime Minister should have an opportunity of submitting to

the consideration of the House the Resolutions of the Government in regard to Standing Committees. He had been prepared, and he still was prepared, to give a fair and candid consideration to the plan of the Government, and for that reason he was reluctant to attempt to cut short a discussion by such a Motion as that which had been moved by his right hon. Friend; but he felt bound in candour to say that during the course of this debate it had become perfectly plain to him, and it must be perfectly plain to the majority of the House, that the Government had not got any well-digested plan at all; and, although the House must proceed to consider these Resolutions, what they ought to consider was not the plan of the Government, but whether the House in an exhausted state, at the far end of the Session, should create for itself a plan for carrying out the idea which the Prime Minister had laid before them. He did not think that was a position in which the House ought to be placed. It was quite clear that they should have to go on and discuss in detail the scheme of the Prime Minister. He had no wish to detain the House now by attempting to discuss matters of detail; but if the House would indulge him, he would just give two examples in order to explain what he meant when he said that the plan of Her Majesty's Government was not digested at all. The first illustration he wished to give was that there was no plan whatever proposed by the Government for the election of these Standing Committees. Nothing could be more crude or unsatisfactory than the proposal that they should be nominated by the Committee of Selection. He would not speak about the Private Bill Committees, because the appointment of Private Bill Committees was, no doubt, perfectly satisfactory; it was a sort of general body, appointed by the Committee of Selection to the general satisfaction of those who appeared before it. But for the appointment of Committees like these Standing Committees, the Committee of Selection possessed no qualifications whatever. The House did not even trust the Committee of Selection to appoint its Select Committees. The Committee of Selection was sometimes allowed to nominate one or two Members of a Select Committee when that Select Committee met for private inte-

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rests; but when a Select Committee was appointed to deal with purely public questions, no one dreamt of vesting the appointment of the Committee in the Committee of Selection. Well, the mode of appointing Select Committees in that House was most unsatisfactory; and the reason why the House acquiesced was that they—the Select Committees—had no important functions to discharge. He thought it was the late Mr. Disraeli who said that Select Committees were an elaborate mode of finding out what everybody knew. They had no power to legislate in that House; and when it came to a question of the appointment of these Standing Committees, which were to exercise a great and appreciable influence upon the legislation of the country, no one would contend that the appointment of such Committees should be made by the Committee of Selection. The Committee of Selection, as his noble Friend the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) said, really represented the Front Benches on each side of the House. He did not mean to undervalue the Front Benches, and he never did; but one thing that would be certainly carried out in the appointment of these Standing Committees, as it was now proposed to be made, was the elimination of every single Member who had what was called independence of opinion, regard only being had, as the qualification of a Member to serve upon them, to whether he was likely to give a steady vote for the Party to which he belonged. They on that side of the House denounced the tyranny of force, but on that side of the House they had means quite as effective for the coercion of any recalcitrant Member; but they disliked anything like the coercion of independence of thought as strongly as they disliked the influence brought to bear in that direction by certain Caucuses throughout the country. He was, therefore, quite certain that if Standing Committees were appointed by the Committee of Selection, or by a selection from both sides of the House, or by any other means of that kind, the result would be to eliminate from these Standing Committees all those Gentlemen on both sides of the House who had distinguished themselves in their debates by anything like independence of thought. Whether that would conduce to the shortening of debates when a

Bill left the Standing Committee he would leave hon. Members to judge. Those who found themselves excluded by their character and qualifications from serving on the Standing Committees would revenge themselves by expressing their opinion upon every measure which was returned to the House; and he did not think the Government would be able even to try the experiment of the appointment of Standing Committees until they had devised and laid before the House some means by which Standing Committees, when appointed, would be really representative of the House itself. A Committee, upon which not only a legitimate Opposition, but even what might be called an illegitimate Opposition, composed of Members sitting below the Gangway, and even in regard to which the Radical Party might be placed in a large minority, would not be a Committee that would secure the confidence of the House; and he would advise the Government, before they proceeded further with the Resolutions, to consider and lay before the House some well-digested scheme by which these Standing Committees would be made more thoroughly representative. He was not saying this in order to cast any blame upon the Prime Minister. Of course, the Prime Minister could not attend to all these matters of detail. The right hon. Gentleman formed an idea, but nothing more than an idea. But he wondered why the Prime Minister did not ask the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Dodson) to work out the details of the scheme. It was quite evident that the right hon. Gentleman had never thought about the scheme at all, and that the scheme in the right hon. Gentleman's mind was as crude and as general as it was in the mind of the Prime Minister. It was rightly so in the case of the Prime Minister, because it was not to be expected that, with his numerous avocations, he could condescend to enter upon these details; but the case was very different with the President of the Local Government Board. It would greatly assist the House if the right hon. Gentleman would prepare, in a proper form, the details of the scheme, so that they might be fully explained to the House. There was another thing he desired to call the attention of the

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House to—namely, the mode or principle on which Bills were to be delegated to the Standing Committees. There, again, the Government were just as much at sea as any hon. Member. They had no scheme to explain, and therefore they could not explain it. The definition of the terms “law” and “trade” was as crude, and vague, and general as any definition could possibly be. The Government could not even themselves specify what Bills they were going to refer to these Standing Committees, nor could they tell whether a particular Bill was to go or not. They had been asked if Bills would be referred to the Standing Committee simply by a vote of the House, and they did not know whether that was to be so or not. It seemed to him, therefore, that with the vague definition the House now had it would be necessary for the House in every case to resolve that a Bill should be referred to a Grand Committee. He knew that was not the language of the Resolution; but the language of the Resolution would have to be altered, or else it was quite plain that they would have the extraordinary anomaly of having Bills which excited the greatest amount of passion and interest in the country referred to a Committee upstairs. To give only one instance, what would the House say to a Bill for the abolition of capital punishment going upstairs? That was clearly a law Bill; but were they going to have such a Bill referred to a Select Committee upstairs? If not, how was it to be intercepted? How was a Bill of that kind, which naturally fell within the definition given in the Resolution, when the House did not intend it to be referred to a Select Committee upstairs—how was it to be intercepted? They did not know when the Bill was to be referred; they did not know by whom it was to be referred; they did not know how it was to be referred; and on all these important particulars the Government had not yet formed any scheme which they were able to lay before the House. For these reasons he must say that he had reluctantly come to the conclusion that the wisest course the House could now pursue, reluctant as he was to disappoint the Prime Minister in carrying out this scheme, was to postpone the consideration of the remaining Resolutions until the Government scheme was in a more workable shape. Of course,

he would find himself in a minority, and he could not hope to prevail against the majority of the House; but he should be perfectly content to give effect to his views in the Division Lobby, and he, for one, would feel it his duty, if his right hon. Friend went to a division, to record his vote in favour of the Amendment.

MR. GOSCHEN: Sir, I will only stand for a very short time between the House and the division which I think it is anxious to take; but I wish to say a few words upon this subject. I am not prepared to assent to the view taken by the right hon. Gentleman opposite (Sir R. Assheton Cross) and his Friends, that it is not expedient to discuss this question at the present moment. No doubt, hon. Members are anxious to see this extraordinary Session come to an end; but there is another anxiety we also have, and that is that the House should be placed in a position next Session to be able to tackle the work that will be placed upon it in a satisfactory manner, and that it may not have to begin the Session with further debates upon Procedure. Therefore, for my part, I am anxious that this matter, even at the expense of great personal sacrifices to many Members, should be thrashed out as far as it is possible to do so during this Session. We have been told—and I accept that view—that this is an experimental measure, and I think there are a great many Members who will vote in favour of the measure on the ground that it is an experiment only—an important experiment—and an experiment of which we are bound to consider the full scope—an experiment to be tried on important Bills, which doubtless interest great classes in this country, and, therefore, an experiment that we must look fully in the face before we assent to it; but, nevertheless, an experiment which it will be possible to reverse if it should not be found to be expedient. I am not prepared to assent to the Motion of the right hon. Gentleman opposite; but, on the other hand, I think we should do our duty if we endeavour to see the full scope of this experiment, and I am sure that the Government will be disposed to give as full explanations of its principle as it is in their power to do, because we cannot conceal from ourselves that the experiment is based upon novel principles; and I think that this debate

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may have one important effect—namely, that of giving a certain guide to the Committee of Selection to determine them as to the kind of idea which the House entertains with regard to the composition of the Grand Committees which are to be appointed. Now, it appears to me that there are three principles on which a selection might take place—three possible principles. I should exclude some of them as impracticable; but still I think it is right that they should be stated. One principle would be the principle of nationality; another principle would be the principle of experts; and the third principle, I think, would be this—that these Grand Committees should be as clearly as possible reflections of the House of Commons; and I do not hesitate to say that I trust the determination of the Government, and the determination of the Committee of Selection, if to that body should be confided the most important and difficult task of appointing these Committees—I trust the principle which will mainly guide the selection will be the principle of constituting these Committees, so that they shall be, as far as possible, a miniature of the House of Commons itself. I exclude the idea of these Committees being composed upon the principle of nationalities. I see that there are many Amendments placed upon the Paper which seem to indicate that, in the opinion of some Members of this House, it would be desirable so to develop this system as to have Scotch Committees, Irish Committees, and Welsh Committees to deal with questions relating to those nationalities. Now, I should consider that a most dangerous development of the present system; and if I thought that that was in the mind of a majority of this House—if I had reason to believe that it was in the mind of the Government—I should vote against this experiment, because I should consider that it was leading us into a dangerous development. I understand from the language of the Prime Minister that such an idea is not in the mind of Her Majesty's Government, and that what is in the mind of Her Majesty's Government is simply a division of labour. I gather from the speech of my right hon. Friend the President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Dodson) that, on the whole, the view of the Government leans to the idea that these Grand Committees are, as far as possible,

to be reflections of the House. Now, I do not conceal my opinion that I should be afraid of these Committees being constituted on the principle of men with special interests having a special claim to be appointed upon them. My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister did speak of a special interest taken by Members in certain classes of subjects. I will remind the House that there are three considerations which are to be borne in mind by the Committee of Selection, as these Resolutions are drawn—namely, the classes of subjects, the composition of this House, and the qualifications of Members. I trust that the main point—that the main consideration which will guide the Committee of Selection, will be the composition of this House, and that they will think less of the qualification of Members, and less of the classes of subjects to be referred to these Committees, because I am not afraid to express my strongest conviction that nothing would be more dangerous than to confide the consideration of a certain class of subjects to a Grand Committee composed of men strongly interested in those subjects. It is a plausible, and in some respects it sounds a common-sense view, that you are to confide the consideration of subjects to men specially interested in those subjects. [Mr. JOHN BRIGHT: Not peculiarly interested.] I quite agree with my right hon. Friend that pecuniary interest in a subject should never be considered; but I think that an intellectual, or any other interest taken in a particular subject, might have some weight. However, I would say this, with the greatest possible conviction—that if I wished to introduce a great reform, either in trade, or in law, or in any other department, I should have much greater confidence in appealing to the general sense of the House than to any particular Committee constituted from classes. [*Cheers.*] Hon. Members opposite cheer; but they will see that my point is not that we shall not delegate these powers, because if we can delegate these powers to a Grand Committee, fairly representing the House, I am entirely in favour of the Government view; and it will be seen that in the criticisms I am making I mean to lay down this proposition in the strongest possible terms. I sympathize with the Government in their efforts to delegate these powers; I sympathize with their efforts to facilitate

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the labours of the House; but I am anxious that it should be done in such a manner that the labours of the House will be performed by Grand Committees precisely on the same principles and in the same manner as if those labours were performed by the House itself. And now let us consider for a moment, if the House will allow me to follow up this train of thought—let us consider for a moment, if the great shipping questions initiated by Mr. Plimsoll had been committed to a Grand Committee for consideration, whether he would have been able to carry those reforms. I doubt whether it would have been possible. When you wish to reform the law, to reform commerce, to reform any great industry or any trade in regard to which there are great interests concerned, it is necessary to maintain a general interest in the House in the particular subjects. It is necessary that the general opinion—the strong tide of opinion—of this House should be kept strongly at work in order to check the views that might be taken by those specially interested in particular subjects. In a word, I may say that I am strongly against the composition of Grand Committees on the principle of any large number of “experts,” as they are called, being placed upon them. An hon. Member yesterday evening denied that there were experts in this House. Well, I think that cannot be the view that will be taken by the House in general, or, if so, it is only a dispute in regard to the meaning of the term. Everybody knows what is meant when we speak of a Committee of Experts. Another phrase may be taken—those specially connected with any particular industry or any particular trade; and I maintain that it would be dangerous to place them on any Committee in such numbers as that they should give a general decision with regard to the clauses of a Bill committed to their care. And here, I think, I may point out a danger against which I trust the Committee of Selection will guard, if these important duties are conferred upon them. They will find themselves in a great difficulty and in a great dilemma. They will have strong pressure brought to bear upon them to put upon a Grand Committee connected with trade the Representatives of almost every constituency connected with trade and manufactures. If they give way to that pressure,

no doubt they will have a Grand Committee on which those interested will be so largely represented that there would be a fear of the general feeling of the House—that broad opinion, to which I wish a final appeal to be made upon all these questions—being insufficiently represented. On the other hand, if they do not put on a sufficient number of those who are interested, it is just possible that complaints may be made by individual Members and by their constituents that they are not upon the Grand Committee. That is the difficulty with which it will be necessary to deal, and which we must face in the experiment we wish to undertake. Hon. Members opposite have objected very much to the view that these Committees should be generally based upon the principle of the composition of the House. I understand that while hon. Members opposite object to the preponderance of experts upon these Committees, as I do—for I share the opinion that any preponderance of experts on these Committees would be a great mistake—I find that hon. Members also object to this House being represented on the Grand Committees in its natural proportions.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: Regard being had to the composition of the House.

MR. GOSCHEN: Yes; it has been urged over and over again, and urged, I think, by the right hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson), that it would be an invasion of the practice of the House. That was also urged by the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill).

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: No; I never said so.

MR. GOSCHEN: Then I beg the noble Lord's pardon; but it certainly has been urged in almost every speech made upon the question on the other side of the House, that it would be wrong to depart from the principle that there should be only a majority of 1 upon a Select Committee. The argument was raised in this way—that my right hon. Friend the Prime Minister had, from the year 1868 downwards, attempted to change the old practice of the House that a Select Committee should be so composed that the majority should only be a majority of 1 upon such Committees.

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MR. GLADSTONE: That was the former practice.

MR. GOSCHEN: Yes; that was the former practice; but I confess it appears to me that when a Bill is referred to a Committee, the Select Committee should not be composed on the principle of only having a majority of 1 in favour of the Government of the day, no matter in what proportion the majority of the House itself may be in reference to the minority. I object to these Grand Committees being composed on the principle that there should only be a majority of 1 on each Committee, while there is a majority of three-fifths or two-fifths in the House itself. I consider that much harm has been done in past years, whatever Government has been in power, through adopting the principle of nominating Select Committees in that way. It has been a distinct disadvantage to the majority of the day, especially when it is taken into account that the Chairman of the Committee, who is always named from the majority, cannot vote; and it has happened, over and over again, that a Select Committee appointed to consider a Government Bill has found itself in this position, that the minority of the House were actually in a majority upon the Committee. If any accident happened so as to prevent one single Member of the majority attending the Committee, then the result has been that the minority have practically become the majority. Then, if this plan of Standing Committees is to be tried, it appears to me that one of the principles on which we ought to stand is this. These Committees are to be, as far as possible, the reflection of the House at large. The noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) made some strong disparaging observations with regard to the Committee of Selection. It appears to me that the Committee of Selection has done its difficult work with admirable tact during a large number of years. It has had a very difficult task to perform, and I regret to find there is a tendency on the part of the noble Lord, and of other Members of the House, to increase the difficulties, not of their political opponents only, but of the authorities of the House. I think it is a pity, considering the great difficulties under which Parliament is labouring, that any attempt should be

made to increase them by endeavouring to throw discredit upon such bodies as the Committee of Selection, who have such heavy and responsible duties committed to their charge, and who endeavour to discharge them with conscientious impartiality. I admit the immense difficulty which will be cast upon the Committee of Selection. I admit that their duties will be far greater than those they have had to perform hitherto, and for this reason—that hitherto they have had to impose a duty upon Members, whereas now they may have to confer a privilege upon them. They will have to settle who is to serve on these Grand Committees, and a more difficult task could never be confided to any body of men. Then I believe that by a frank discussion of the situation, while we are engaged on the matter, we shall facilitate the task which the Committee of Selection may ultimately have to perform. No doubt, other Members may take a different view from that which I take and say that it is mainly to men conversant with particular subjects that the Committee of Selection ought to look and I will make this admission—that they ought to see that upon these Grand Committees they place the strongest experts that exist in this House in regard to particular subjects. But, if I may venture to suggest, they should look rather to the strength of the men than to the number of the men, because I believe it is not by putting on these Committees a large number of specialists that we should arrive at the result we wish to attain. My right hon. Friend at the head of the Government spoke yesterday of a division of labour, and how by a division of labour we ought to be able to obtain greater results. I admit the advantages of a division of labour; but as my right hon. Friend spoke of the increased work which in the country has been performed by the division of labour, I wish to say that that division of labour has, in regard to many trades, had one disadvantage, and that is of creating a class of specialists fit to perform the particular class of work placed upon them by the division of labour, but incompetent to address themselves to the work as a whole. The result has been that the persons engaged in a particular trade have become too special. The right hon. Gentleman will excuse me if I point to a danger which

Mr. Goschen

may attend the selection of these Committees. It is not through specialists that we are to attempt to deal with the question. We must attempt the composition of a Committee as far as possible in regard to the subjects referred to it, but with a representation of all classes in this House upon it. I hope I have justified the remark that I made at the beginning of these few observations, that I am anxious not to increase the great difficulties of the Government in endeavouring to deal with the arrears of work; but, at the same time, it appeared to me that it was right we should realize to ourselves some of the leading principles involved in this delegation of power, and not lose ourselves in the consideration of difficult objections which I trust may be overcome. It is easy enough to cite a number of objections in detail to any plan. Many of the objections in this case, when I heard them, I will honestly say, made a considerable impression upon my mind, and when I listened I wondered how it was possible to overcome them. But when I think of the difficulty of the present state of things, when I perceive the difficulty of applying ourselves to our work, I am not without a hope that we may be able to overcome those difficulties of detail, and that the greater sacrifices that are demanded of men of business, of lawyers, and of many other classes by these Grand Committees will be met with the same readiness which men in public life in this country so often display in the discharge of public duties. Then, in regard to the duties confided to them, I think we shall be able to overcome these difficulties. We should, however, commit a great error, in the delegation of our power, were we to act on a false principle and forget the Representatives of the constituencies of this country. I will never admit that great interests of a varied character are to be determined by specialists, or any limited number of men; and we should take care that all classes, and the Representatives of all interests, have a voice in determining the legislation which is to affect any one class. In nearly all the discussions which have taken place on this subject, in nearly all the speeches which have been delivered, one fact has become prominent and apparent—namely, that we cannot separate the interests of this

country in this fashion, where all are so united; and it is difficult to draw the line and say where the interests of agriculture overlap those of trade—where law begins or where trade begins. It is necessary for the country that there should be an amalgamation of interests; and, for my part, I have always protested against the idea that the interests of classes are separate and antagonistic. I believe the interests of classes all overlap and depend on each other; and, therefore, whatever may result from these proposals, I trust that all of the interests of this country may be taken into consideration in dealing with any special interests, and that the House of Commons will retain, as I believe it ought to retain, the full power and full opportunity of discussing every question and every law which affects any single class of the community.

Mr. SOLATER-BOOTH said, the right hon. Gentleman had given some excellent advice to the Members of the Committee of Selection, and he regretted he did not see more than one of that body present. He had only seen one in his place since this discussion began. The right hon. Gentleman had made some useful and instructive observations, with many of which he was disposed to agree; and his (Mr. Solater-Booth's) complaint was that they did not find on the Notice Paper any materials which would enable them to come to a conclusion as to what these Committees would be, or how they would work. Apparently it was left to the Committee of Selection to find it out in the best way they could. Then, again, they hardly knew how far they had got Committees of Selection upon which they could depend—that was to say, to what extent the House could rely that the Committees of Selection would not be themselves tampered with. As the functions of these bodies grew, was the House to rest assured that the numbers on the Committees or their complexion would not be altered? They knew what a Committee of Selection was now, but they did not know what it might be under new manipulation. The Grand Committees, if they were ever to be tried, ought to be tried on a different principle to those laid down in the Resolution. Each Committee ought to be a minor form of a Committee of the Whole House; but the Committee of the Whole House should

[*Thirty-first Night*]

be left to form panels for themselves to serve like Committees on Private Bills. In order to enable the House to do this the whole of the definition of the Bills in the Resolution ought to be struck out, in accordance with his (Mr. Selater-Booth's) Amendment standing on the Paper. If the Committee of the Whole House were to form two panels of 60 or 80 Members, without reference to the Bills to be referred to them, there would be a chance of substantial Committees being formed, and there would be no pressure whatever on the part of hon. Members to be put on this or that Committee, because no one would know until the time came for them to sit what Bills were going to be referred to them. He wished to refer to some other faults in the plan of the Government which led him to believe that it had not been sufficiently thought out. In answer to the President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Dodson), he would say it seemed to him that the Government had given no thought whatever to the mode in which the plan was to be worked. As it stood on the Paper the proposal was that certain Bills should be referred to the Grand Committees; but the Grand Committee was not to be constructed for the Bill. The Bill was to be referred to the Grand Committee after the latter had been constituted. Was, then, the promoter of a Bill to have no voice in its consideration in Committee—was he not to be on the Committee? It was not even provided that the President of the Board of Trade, when he brought forward a Bill, should be on the Committee to whom it was referred. At present, when a Public Bill was referred to a Select Committee, the Minister in charge of it was appointed Chairman; but no provision was made for that in the Resolution. No doubt, it was intended that Members of the Government should be on the Standing Committees, but Members of the Government would have little time to devote to such work; in fact, he hardly knew how this scheme could work without causing Ministers to neglect their Departmental duties. It was true that though there were "immense masses" of work to be done there was great power in the House to do it; but he was afraid the great "mass" of work in the mind of the right hon. Gentleman was the 35 measures they had heard so much of as the

Mr. Selater-Booth

reforms to be proposed for the gratification, he would not say of the country, but of the Liberal Party. No doubt, there were great masses of work to be done; but to his mind this work was of a more unobtrusive character than that referred to by the right hon. Gentleman—namely, private legislation—matters connected with Town Improvement, Police, Sanitary Regulations, and Finance. These were matters pressing on the House, but to which the House was little disposed to give consideration. If Members of the Government, and others who ought to be considering important private legislation, were on these Grand Committees, the enormous and growing interests of the country would suffer by the establishment of the Grand Committees. It appeared to him that if the Committee of Selection was to mark out 80 Members each for two of these Standing Committees, Private Business would be starved still more than it was at present. As the Resolution stood, the House could not adopt it unless it was prepared to sit another fortnight to construct a scheme, word by word, and line by line, out of the very general and sketchy material on the Paper. Unless the House was prepared to do this, it would be well to decide to enlarge the Committees to which Public Bills were from time to time referred, and to postpone the Resolution. Unless they were prepared to devote a great deal more time to this matter than they had yet given it, it seemed to him that they were only aiming at something that was in the abstract and not in the concrete. The Government did not give them the assistance in the matter they were entitled to expect, if, at this period of the Session, on a subject so important, they only gave them this shadowy and vague Resolution.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 133; Noes 77: Majority 56.—(Div. List, No. 400.)

Main Question again proposed.

Debate arising;

Debate *adjourned till To-morrow.*

House adjourned at a quarter before One o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Wednesday, 29th November, 1882.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of Judicial Business only.

House adjourned at Four o'clock,
till To-morrow, half-past
Ten o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Wednesday, 29th November, 1882.

MR. SPEAKER'S ABSENCE.

The House being met, the Clerk at the Table informed the House of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker on account of continued indisposition :—

Whereupon Mr. Playfair, the Chairman of Ways and Means, proceeded to the Table as Deputy Speaker, and after Prayers counted the House, and forty Members being present, took the Chair, pursuant to the Standing Order.

QUESTIONS.

EGYPT (EMPLOYMENT OF HER MAJESTY'S FORCES) (THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION)—EXTRA PAY AND ALLOWANCES.

LORD EUSTACE CECIL asked the Secretary of State for War, Whether he is now in a position to say what extra pay and allowances will be granted to the officers and men of the Army of Occupation in Egypt to meet the increased expenses of living entailed by enforced residence in that country?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: In reply to my noble Friend, I have to say that, in view of the increased expense of living entailed upon the officers of the Army of Occupation in Egypt, the War Office has proposed and the Treasury has assented to the grant of a special local allowance of 3s. a-day, in addition to the pay of officers of all ranks quar-

tered in that country. With regard to the men, they receive a field ration gratis, and are not, therefore, put to any extra expense on account of rations, and no deduction is made from their pay as at home. I may add that the expense entailed by this allowance will not be large, and will be included in the extra expense alluded to yesterday by the Prime Minister as likely to be borne by the Revenues of Egypt. I trust that this statement will be satisfactory to the noble Lord and to the officers and men of the Army of Occupation in Egypt, in whose interest the noble Lord has addressed this Question to me.

SIR HENRY FLETCHER: I beg to ask from what date the extra pay will be granted?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: I believe from the 1st of October, the date at which the service of the Army of Occupation in Egypt commenced.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—EGYPT (EMPLOYMENT OF HER MAJESTY'S FORCES.)

SIR WILFRID LAWSON said, he wished to put a Question to the Prime Minister. When he proposed to bring forward a Motion in that House relative to the Egyptian War the right hon. Gentleman had declined to give him any facilities for bringing forward that Motion, principally upon the ground that it was brought forward upon individual responsibility, and was not a Motion expressing the sentiment of a large portion of the House. What he wanted to ask was this—Whether, seeing that a Motion had now been put down upon the Paper in the name of the hon. Member for Salford (Mr. Arthur Arnold), who was an enthusiastic supporter of the War, in favour of the War, the right hon. Gentleman would give facilities for that Motion being brought on, on the ground that it expressed the general sentiments of the House?

MR. GLADSTONE: I was not aware that my hon. Friend was going to put this Question to-day; but I am bound to say that, looking at the special circumstances, I do not think that anything except a Vote of Censure, proposed and supported by a large body of the House, would justify the Government in asking the House to assent to an interruption in the present Business of Procedure.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE
HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PRO-
CEDURE.II. *STANDING COMMITTEES.*RESOLUTION 1 (STANDING COMMIT-
TEES ON LAW AND COURTS OF
JUSTICE, TRADE, &c.)[ADJOURNED DEBATE.] [THIRTY-
SECOND NIGHT.]

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Main Question [28th November],

"That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may be committed to them respectively."

Main Question again proposed.

Debate resumed.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he proposed to insert, in line 1, after the word "two," the words "or more." The object of the Amendment was to extend the operation of the Resolution by enabling more than two Standing Committees to be appointed. He should not have voted for the Resolution had he not believed that these Standing Committees would give great facility for the transaction of Public Business. He had long been convinced, ever since he had had a seat in the House, that it was impossible for 650 Members sitting together in the House of Commons to do the whole details of the work of the Three Kingdoms. He believed that this Resolution so extended would be the most important reform effected in connection with these discussions on Procedure. It seemed to him that the objections to the principles of the Resolution were very much due to its composition. He believed the effect of the Resolutions would be to accelerate those changes which had been taking place in the composition of the House, so that they should more and more have men of leisure and special capacity for Parliamentary work. He hoped that henceforth Membership of that House would depend more upon brains than upon what an eminent statesman under whom he had served termed "guts," or what

he might perhaps more properly describe as interior economy. What he desired especially to secure by this Amendment was the principle of territorial division of work, as distinguished from division by subjects as contained in the Resolution before the House. His hope was that if they had a Committee of that kind in regard to Scotch Business, in which there should be a very large infusion of Scotch Members, while they should also have the assistance of English and Irish Members, it would not only benefit Scotland, but would benefit the affairs of the whole Kingdom, because they would see how admirably the work would be done, and the other parts of the United Kingdom would be induced to adopt the same system, and they would arrive at a solution of this question. An hon. Member had, in the course of the debate, asked how the House was to be made aware of the motives which influenced the decision of the Committees. The practice in the United States was for the Chairman to make the best report in writing of the proceedings that he could, and submit it to the House. He believed that plan would work well if introduced here. He agreed with the Prime Minister that in the constitution of these Committees due regard should be paid to the composition of the House. He had been considerably influenced, in bringing forward this Amendment, by the satisfactory results of the Saturday Sittings held last Summer for the transaction of Scottish Business. These were really, in point of fact, Grand Committees of the kind which he proposed, because most of the English and Irish Members had absented themselves from these discussions. He admitted that this question had not been agitated in Scotland; the question, indeed, had not been submitted to the people of Scotland, who, of course, knew very little about the details of Procedure in that House. He knew the Conservative Members for Scotland were very much opposed to this idea, because they imagined they would always be left in a minority. But he thought if they would try this system their fears would be found to have been very much exaggerated. He appealed to them whether the result of those Saturday Sittings had not been that they discussed the Business before them in no Party spirit, almost everything of

that sort being entirely eliminated from their proceedings. As a Scotch Member, he did not complain of any evil influence exercised by English and Irish Members on Scotch legislation. But as the House was constituted, they did not get a chance of discussing Scottish Business as it ought to be discussed. He wished to dispel the illusion, which he found to be almost ingrained in the minds of English Members, that Scottish Members settled their affairs in the Tea Room. He had had a seat in the House in two Parliaments, and he had not during that time known a single instance of a Scotch Bill being settled in the Tea Room. What had happened in regard to Scotch Bills was, that they had been entirely precluded from discussing them either in Committee or in the House, and it had been a case of taking a Bill as it stood, or going without it altogether. Under these circumstances, they had a claim to some reconstitution of that House, under which they should have an opportunity of fairly and freely considering measures relating to Scotland. It was not his intention to suggest that there should be a Grand Committee for Ireland as well as for Scotland. In his opinion the cases were entirely different. The different legal system prevalent in Scotland to England and Ireland required separate legislation, and justified the appointment of a Grand Committee to consider her wants. But in the case of Ireland many difficulties existed which did not occur in that of Scotland. Should, however, some system of local self-government such as the Prime Minister had indicated be devised for Ireland, he saw no reason why it should not be fairly considered by the House. He believed that no free Government could succeed which was too much centralized. The great point was that in Scotland they had laws and institutions radically different from the rest of the United Kingdom. The objection, however, to this territorial division of the work was that it would only be the beginning of Home Rule. He did not see why they should not adopt a useful Rule for that reason. The hon. Gentleman was proceeding to discuss the question of Home Rule, when—

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. LYON PLAYFAIR): I must point out to the hon. Member that he is going far beyond the Question.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL, resuming, said, all he submitted was, that the most effective answer which had been made to his proposal was that it would lead to Home Rule. He contended that it would not necessarily lead to Home Rule; but he should still be prepared for the adoption of a modified Home Rule such as he himself would wish to see—not the separation of the three Kingdoms or the establishment in Ireland or Scotland of a form of Government such as they had in Canada, but a modified Home Rule.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. LYON PLAYFAIR): The hon. Member is discussing a Question which is really not before the House.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL proceeded to submit that, if the Grand Committees which he proposed succeeded, they might afterwards localize them, and the Grand Committees might sit at Edinburgh and report the result of their deliberations to the House. He hoped the Government would see their way to adopt his proposal.

Amendment proposed, in line 1, after the word "two," to insert the words "or more."—(*Sir George Campbell.*)

Question proposed, "That the words 'or more' stand part of the Question."

MR. GLADSTONE: Sir, I do not think it is necessary for me to follow my hon. Friend at large in the discussion into which he has entered with so much fulness and ability. The hon. Member is entitled to take to himself the description *qui gemino bellum trojanum orditur ab ovo*, and he has been equally courageous in traversing the future and the past. But these questions, Sir, which he has opened up overwhelm me, I own, at the present period of the year and of the Session. But I still hope they will bear, at any rate, an adjournment. I think my hon. Friend has, in one respect, omitted to take into view the position of the Government when he says he hopes we shall be able to entertain favourably this proposal. I do not at all deny that there may be very much to be said for a proposal for the extension of the plan which Her Majesty's Government have proposed. Perhaps if I were master of this affair—if it were a thing to be settled like an establishment in a Government

[*Thirty-second Night.*]

office of which I happened to be the head—I should be prepared to go a step or two farther than we have gone in the proposals before us; but our duty is to regulate the proposals we make in this House, not according to our own, perhaps, over-sanguine anticipations, but what we may fairly ask the general mind of the House to adopt. That is the measure by which we determine the limits of the proposal now before the House. My hon. Friend will see that, that having been the original principle upon which we proceeded, I should not, even after a complete process of conversion and conviction, be in a condition to act on the suggestion he has made, because in submitting these Resolutions to the House I was most careful to dwell upon their most strict limitations in point of subject, in point of number, and in point of their duration. Therefore it would be, on my part and on the part of my Colleagues, a breach of faith towards the House if after having obtained, as we did last night, the assent of a large majority of the House to the principle of dealing with these Resolutions on the basis we had previously described, we thereafter entertained a proposal for largely extending the basis of our plan. I think my hon. Friend will see that from our position we are not free to enter upon a discussion of that kind, but that good faith towards the House, as well as the sound policy on which we have proceeded, binds me not to adhere to the boundaries which I described in making the original proposal.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, he fully shared the disinclination of the Prime Minister to enter at that period of the year into a debate upon Home Rule for Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and possibly in the future England, and ultimately the Metropolis. He was, however, bound to say that, having regard to the speech with which the right hon. Gentleman opened the question of Standing Committees, the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell) had some justification for the course he had pursued. He trusted that during the day the Prime Minister would explain to the House the precise meaning of one sentence in his opening speech. The right hon. Gentleman had recommended Standing Committees to the House in very remarkable words. The right hon. Gentleman had said—

Mr. Gladstone

“Nay, more; not only are we becoming now a nation of very large population moving on wards to our 40,000,000, and likely to attain it before the end of the present century, but we are a nation broken up locally also into various divisions, with some degree of various want and specialities—a circumstance which we are beginning to recognize in different parts of the country.”

He wished to call attention to the obvious spirit and meaning of those sentences, which were clearly in the direction of the Amendment of the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy. If it were true as a matter of fact, that the Scottish system of jurisprudence was totally different from the law of England and the rest of the country, and if they were told that this system of Standing Committees was, in some mysterious but unexplained way, to facilitate the consideration of specialities of Scottish law then he thought he was right in saying that the Standing Committees as proposed by the Government would not, in the slightest degree, effect that object. On the contrary, the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy would be justified in complaining that, under this system, special Scottish law questions would be far less well-considered than on the floor of the House under the existing system, for the reason that the Standing Committees were to be appointed to consider the laws of the country generally, and it was not likely that the 60 or 80 Members who were to be appointed on them would have any particular knowledge of Scotch or Irish law. That being the case, the effect would be that when Scottish law questions were referred to them, the Scottish Members would be very few in number, and they would be overwhelmed by English, and Irish, and Welsh Members. He could not, therefore, see how the Prime Minister could commend this system of Standing Committees, as he proposed, to the Representatives of the different nationalities as affording them a better chance than they had now of having the specialities of their respective countries better considered. Therefore, he, for one, was not surprised that the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy had taken this opportunity of pressing that view on the attention of the House at that inconvenient period. He sincerely hoped that before those debates were concluded the right hon. Gentleman would give a distinct repudiation to the views expressed by the

hon. Member for Kirkcaldy, and express his concurrence with the opinions enunciated last night with so much force and power by the right hon. Member for Ripon (Mr. Goschen). He should certainly give his support to the Government in resistance to the hon. Member's Amendment.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he presumed that as the noble Lord had quoted from a former speech of his in the debate he was entitled to make an explanation. The noble Lord had not taken into account the tenour of his speech. He (Mr. Gladstone), in that portion of the speech quoted by the noble Lord, had been arguing on the general increase of the Business of the House, and his remarks stood in no relation whatever to the subject of a reference to Grand Committees. The noble Lord had stated reasons why Bills affecting Scotch law might not properly be referred to these Committees. Whether that was so or not, his (Mr. Gladstone's) speech referred to the increase of the Business of the House, and to the fact that such increase was greater and more rapid because, while we were a very populous country, we were not a homogeneous country with respect to law, but had to provide for the wants of several distinct portions of the country in a different manner. And he thought it was quite obvious that his meaning was that, by the institution of these Standing Committees, a great portion of the work of the House of Commons would be removed from it, and that it would thus be left free to do other work, while local measures introduced into the House would have a better chance of fair and full discussion. It would have been absurd to have made any connection, and he made no connection, between these local measures and Grand Committees.

MR. WHITBREAD said, it was alleged that what the Government had done by these New Rules would give hopes that the House would be able to discharge the duties which came before them; but he would remind the House that long before any serious Obstruction was known, the House was unable to discharge those duties satisfactorily, and many years ago Select Committees were appointed to inquire what alterations could be made. He could point to Bills of great value which had been before them year after year, and could not be

passed for want of time. The late Government proposed to introduce a Valuation Bill, a measure of the highest importance; but, owing to the stress of Business, it was found impossible to introduce it. It was, however, not surprising that the Government proposal had, to some extent, been misunderstood; because, although it was a revival of an ancient usage on a reformed basis, yet it contained a great deal that was new. He was prepared to accept that proposal as a step in the right direction, and as being as much as the Government in the circumstances could prudently bring forward. But he would have preferred a system which would have comprehended the whole House, leaving out no Member—that the whole House should be divided into panels, each being a perfectly true miniature of the House itself, with power to add, in respect of special measures, a certain number of Members who might be classed as experts having special knowledge, specially to advocate certain views. He admitted, however, that the Government could not at present propose anything so large with the least chance of its being accepted by the House. He was willing, therefore, to see the present scheme tried and tested by experience. At the same time, he was of opinion that the limitation of the proposal operated to its disadvantage. It might give rise to jealousy—not on the part of individual Members, but on the part of constituencies which, knowing the business capacity and aptitude of their Members, would feel some disappointment that their Representatives were not placed upon those Committees. By adopting the system which he would have preferred, every section and Party of the House would be fully represented in proportion to the actual constitution of the House for the time being. These Committees were intended to mould legislation. How would such a body be content to find itself on a bare equality with the minority that had been defeated at the poll? Another difficulty in this scheme was with regard to the time of the Sittings of the Committee. In dealing with public matters, it was only reasonable and proper that the Committees should sit in public time—that was, in the time devoted to Public Business, and not to private legislation. If the House should, after trying the scheme in a tentative manner, find it answer, they might

hope to see it enlarged. The difficulties and limitations were so great that he would like to see the experiment tried even on a small scale. With regard to the constitution of the Committees, he cordially accepted what was stated by his right hon. Friend the Member for Ripon (Mr. Goschen) last night. The Resolution, if properly looked at, did really intend that the Committees should be representative. If the House looked at the Amendment which stood on the Paper in the name of the hon. Member for Liverpool, and that put upon the Paper by the Prime Minister, it was manifest that it was intended the Committees should be a miniature of the House. The Committees would consist of a certain number of experts, just as in Committee of the Whole House Members were always present who were specially qualified to speak upon the subject under discussion. Another point was this—whether anything might be expected from these Committees which could not be obtained at present. What happened at present was this—When a Committee of the Whole House was engaged on a Bill it could not be referred back to the draftsman. He had known clauses passed by Committee before the ink was dry. No wonder, therefore, that under such a process blunders should be numerous. A Standing Committee, on the other hand, would be more master of its time, and would adjourn the attendance of special experts—as, for instance, the draftsman of the Bill. They had fallen into a bad system of drafting Bills. A Bill was now drawn with as little law and as much reference to other Statutes as possible, so that it required a good lawyer, with a good library at his back, to interpret it. They should have a Committee which could devote more time to the discussion and elaboration of a Bill. He believed that a good deal of the opposition manifested to this measure really arose from a misunderstanding as to the constitution of the Committees. But there could be no objection to them if they were a miniature of the House. Then the idea seemed to prevail that this was the thin end of the wedge, and part and parcel of a set of Rules designed for the purpose of forcing measures through the House without discussion. He was sure hon. Members were quite mistaken in this surmise, and

Mr. Whitbread

he regretted deeply if, either in or out of the House, the faintest colour had ever been given to such an idea. He had not words to express how repugnant to his mind was this idea. Obstruction of the most violent kind would be a venial offence, as compared with thrusting measures through the House without affording an opportunity for fair discussion. This would strike at the very life of Parliament. It meant this—to transfer elsewhere the powers, the duties, and the responsibilities discharged in that House. He, for one, was not prepared to surrender these powers, duties, and responsibilities. He was aware of the doctrine that measures were discussed out-of-doors on the platform and in the Press so fully that it was scarcely necessary to discuss them in that House; but he did not believe a word of it. He did not undervalue the power of the platform or of the Press; but who that possessed even the shortest experience of Parliamentary life did not know how very different an aspect a question wore when presented on the platform or in the Press, and when it came to be submitted to the conflict of opposing Parties in that House? The grain was then separated from the husk, and the wheat from the chaff. In his opinion, the appointment of these Grand Committees would practically double the time of the House, and he confessed that he was in favour of the limited proposal of the Government. A short experience of these Grand Committees would probably remove many of the fears which were now entertained with regard to them by hon. Members opposite; and the principle they embodied might be extended by a kind of natural growth, and with the full approbation of the House, without which he should be sorry to see them continue in operation. He should wish to see that House continue to be in the future what it had been in the past—the High Court to which the greatest and the humblest of Her Majesty's subjects might resort for the redress of their grievances, the critic of every act of the Executive, either at home or abroad, while, at the same time, it modelled the legislation necessary to meet the requirements of this great Empire.

Mr. W. H. SMITH said, that the most interesting and valuable speech of the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whit-

bread), to which they had just listened, suggested considerations which appeared to demand more time for their examination than they were likely to obtain during the short remainder of the present Session; and he could not help regretting that that speech had not been delivered in the course of the debate which closed last night. The hon. Member had referred to the arguments which had been used out-of-doors in favour of these Resolutions. It had been urged out-of-doors, not only in favour of the appointment of these Standing Committees, but in support of the whole of the Rules of Procedure as proposed by the Government, that it would enable the Ministers to force through Parliament measures which they could not reasonably hope to pass without them. [Mr. MONK: Where has it been stated?] It had been so stated out-of-doors, and it was so believed out-of-doors, and that statement was believed to be accurate by the Members of the Opposition. ["No!"] He was surprised that the hon. Member opposite should profess to understand more than the Members of the Opposition what were their own opinions on the subject.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL remarked that he had said "No!" to the observation of the right hon. Gentleman that that phrase had been used out-of-doors by the Members of the Liberal Party.

MR. W. H. SMITH repeated, that it had been distinctly stated by prominent Members of the Liberal Party, and especially by the hon. Baronet the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, at Chelsea, that the great object of pushing forward these Rules was that the House might be turned into a Bill-spinning machine, and that measures might be passed through the House more rapidly, and without the consideration which they deserved. ["No!"] He had been glad, under these circumstances, to hear from the hon. Member for Bedford so eloquent, forcible, and Constitutional a protest against any attempt being made in that direction. It was clear that if Bills of importance were sent up to those Standing Committees, the Members of the House who were excluded from the discussion of such Bills in Committee would deem it their duty to examine their details very carefully during their subsequent stages. He believed there would be great difficulty experienced in

carrying out this scheme; and, in his opinion, it had not been defined sufficiently in the Resolution. There were now from four to six Select Committees to which special subjects were referred, and whose labours were found to be of great assistance to the House. He should, however, like to know whether the Government proposed to exclude from these Standing Committees all those Members who were selected to serve upon Select Committees. Then, were these Standing Committees to be subject to the Rules that regulated the proceedings of Select Committees? Were they, for instance, to have the power of calling witnesses? He agreed that Bills were passed through the House now in an unsatisfactory manner; but there was another way out of the difficulty than that proposed by the Government—namely, to obtain a report from the official draftsman as to the effect of the alterations which were made in Committee. The hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell) spoke about the appointment of a Committee for the consideration of measures relating to Scotland. If that right were to be given they would have the same demand made by Members from Wales and from Cornwall; and he himself would demand that there should be a Standing Committee of Metropolitan Members which would consider measures relating to the Metropolis. If they adopted this system where would they find themselves? They would go back to the condition of the Heptarchy, and they would no longer have the authority of a United Parliament for the Three Kingdoms. It would be a great misfortune if they did anything to interfere with, or lessen the authority of, the Imperial Parliament. Their object should be to consolidate rather than separate the interests of the country. They had heard a great deal in the debate about the division of labour. He failed to see how it would be possible to get much more work out of the House of Commons by any means so long as the work was carried on on the present lines. About 300 Members in the House took an active interest in legislation. How could they expect those Members to attend from 12 to 4, and then attend the Sittings of the House from 4 until, perhaps, 1 or 2 in the morning? The work done in Committee in that manner

would, he believed, be practically of little value. As at present suggested, the proposal of the Government was fraught with difficulty and danger; and he thought they were entitled to further time in order that the subject might be more fully and properly considered.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, he did not intend to follow the right hon. Gentleman through the speech he had just delivered, as it appeared to relate to the question which was disposed of yesterday rather than to that then before them. He rose because the right hon. Gentleman, before he came in, had alluded very pointedly to himself, or rather to a speech which he had made. The right hon. Gentleman appeared to have charged him with saying that the real reason for forcing forward and insisting on these reforms was that measures might be passed as through a spinning-machine, without the consideration they had hitherto received. He wished to give the most emphatic denial to that statement. He had never stated anything of the kind.

MR. W. H. SMITH said, he did not charge the hon. Gentleman with saying that they wished to pass measures as through a spinning-machine—those were his own words; but he said that the hon. Baronet had referred to these Rules, and advocated them as necessary in order to pass certain measures through the House.

MR. GLADSTONE: Without sufficient consideration.

MR. W. H. SMITH: Yes; and without due consideration.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE repeated that he had said nothing at all about passing Bills without sufficient consideration. The charge, then, was reduced to this—namely, that he said these reforms were desirable in order to pass measures through the House. That appeared to be no charge at all. Everybody was agreed that the object of these reforms was to pass measures through the House of Commons. As a matter of fact, he believed that the effect of the Resolutions would be that measures would receive much more consideration than had hitherto been the case. Let them take the cases of those Bills which did and did not pass last Session. The Municipal Corporations Bill, which did pass, was a most complicated measure, and was only allowed to pass by

the permission of hon. Gentlemen at a very late hour of the night. As regarded those Bills which did not pass, the Criminal Code was a Bill on the desirableness of which they were all agreed; but if it were to be passed at all without Standing Committees, it could only be passed by a sort of understanding on both sides that there was to be no discussion. The Patents Bill and the Bankruptcy Bill were also measures which could not pass with proper consideration unless sent to such a Committee. He only rose for the purpose of protesting against a grievous misconstruction of his language by the right hon. Gentleman; and, having done so, he would no longer detain the House.

MR. NEWDEGATE said, that the Amendment before the House, proposed by the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell), showed that, in his opinion, the arrangement proposed by Her Majesty's Government in these Resolutions was insufficient. In other respects he (Mr. Newdegate) could not concur in the opinions which the hon. Gentleman had expressed, because he was utterly averse to anything that approached Home Rule, either for Scotland or for Ireland. His creed enjoined the maintenance of the Trinity in Unity of the British Constitution. He had heard the speech of the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread) with gratification. He had served with that hon. Member on successive Committees on Public Business, and it was a misfortune that subsequent Committees had never made their recommendations sufficiently specific since the Committee of 1861, which virtually established the present order of proceeding on Fridays. He looked with great suspicion upon this proposal to delegate the authority of the House. In this he agreed with the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy. His own opinion was that the most important subject, and the most legitimate, which a Grand Committee could be employed upon, had been omitted from the Resolutions. The right hon. Gentleman the First Lord of the Treasury was present in his place, and he remembered the words the right hon. Gentleman spoke in 1873, when the right hon. Gentleman commented upon the confusion in the Business of the House; and declared that this was owing to the insufficient order of Procedure in the House.

Mr. W. H. Smith

The right hon. Gentleman said that such was the confusion of the Order Book, that there was a perpetual jostling between independent Members and the Government as to whose Orders should be considered even on the day appropriated to the Bills of private Members. He (Mr. Newdegate) thought the right hon. Gentleman would not deny that he expressed that opinion forcibly in 1873. He would not, therefore, say more than that he as thoroughly agreed now with the right hon. Gentleman as he had done when he first uttered that opinion; and he would ask, why was the House to be thus incapacitated? In 1875 he (Mr. Newdegate) proposed three Resolutions on this subject. The first proposal embodied a recommendation of the Committee on Public Business, which sat in 1871—That no Member should be allowed to introduce a Bill unless he stated orally, or in writing or in print, not merely the object of the Bill, but the means he proposed for attaining that object, unless by leave of the House. The second proposal was to adopt a Standing Order similar to that long since adopted by the House of Lords at the instance of Lord Redesdale, that no Member should be entitled, except by leave of the House, to appoint or to postpone a Bill or Order beyond or for more than a month. The third proposal was that before Whitsuntide in each Session the House should review the state of the Order Book, and decide what Motions or Bills it would proceed to consider, and thus regain command of its time during the remainder of the Session. These proposals had reference to Bills or Orders of 'non-official Members only. He (Mr. Newdegate) had, since 1875, seen the confusion of the Business of the House greatly increase, and the result of this confusion was to produce universal dissatisfaction, and the generation of that system of Questions, which he held to be utterly unworthy of the House. He held, therefore, that from the objects which were contemplated by the Resolutions they omitted the most important; in one sense he agreed with the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy, that the Resolutions were insufficient; but he differed from him as to what was lacking. The House needed another Committee; a Committee not for Scotch Bills, but a Grand Committee to supervise the Order Book

of the House, in his opinion, before Easter, but certainly before Whitsuntide, to report upon what measures and in what order the Business of the House, as described in its Orders, should be taken. By that means they would increase the capacity of the House to deal with a greater variety of subjects by legislation, and provide for the due consideration of a larger number of Orders. Acting upon the Report of such a Grand Committee, the House would effect a division of its labour, restore its own efficiency, and possibly render unnecessary the system of delegation to which so many objections had justly been urged. Some of these objections appeared to be felt by no one more forcibly than by the hon. Member for Bedford. He (Mr. Newdegate) had indicated a better way of meeting the difficulties of the House, but did not wish to make over again the speech which he made in 1875; still, after what had since happened, and looking at the position in which the House at present stood, he felt strongly that the proposals which he then made for the regulation of the Business of the independent Members of the House ought to be extended, as they were urgently needed, and urgently needed for the Governmental Business as well as for that of individual Members. He was aware that he was trenching upon dangerous ground. Of late years it seemed to have come to be allowed that the Leader of the House, perhaps with the collusion or consent of the Leader of the Opposition, had a monopoly in the arrangement of the Order Book. It rested with the Leader of the House, acting in some degree with the Leader of the Opposition, to decide the order of the Business of the House. He (Mr. Newdegate) thought this monopoly was being carried too far. That statement might excite some jealousy, but he was convinced that it was well-founded. The right hon. Gentleman the First Lord of the Treasury could not claim to have originated the Resolutions now before the House. He (Mr. Newdegate) had heard them proposed in substance more than once in Committees on Public Business, and especially before the Committee on Public Business in 1878; for the Resolutions before the House were but the embodiment of the recommendations contained in the evidence

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of Sir Thomas Erskine May, and he admitted that the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister was quite justified in respecting the authority of Sir Thomas May; for, since Hatsell, no other had been so distinguished in describing the character of the proceedings, the constitution, and the Business of the House. His book was a text-book. He (Mr. Newdegate) desired, however, to call the attention of the House to the fact that, although he had known these proposals submitted to several Committees on Public Business, by no Committee on Public Business had they been adopted. The authorship of the Resolutions rested, therefore, between the distinguished officer of the House whom he had mentioned as the originator, and the right hon. Gentleman the First Lord of the Treasury. Were all the Committees on Public Business since 1861 wrong in failing to recommend those Resolutions to the House? They had been submitted, he believed, to every one of them, and by every one rejected, because the Committees were of opinion, with the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread) and himself, that it was totally impossible to constitute a Grand Committee that should exactly represent the House in all the variety of its qualities and all the variety of its opinions. But there might be a Committee appointed, not to decide the stages of Bills, not to be substituted for the stage of Committee of the Whole House, and so to become a delegation armed with positive power, whose decision was not to be reviewed by the House upon Report; for such was the substance of these Resolutions as they stood, and there would be no stage between the second and third reading of a Bill, unless the House exceptionally interposed. Now, that was an amount of power that he thought would be unsafe for the House to delegate to any Committee without further consideration. He was, however, anxious to impress upon the House that from these Resolutions was omitted that which, in his opinion, and in the opinion of the House of Lords—for they had a Committee, and armed their Chairman with the power of reviewing the Order Book before Whitsuntide—he repeated that from those Resolutions was omitted one object the accomplishment of which would do more to revive the efficiency of the House than any-

Mr. Newdegate

thing not excepting the suppression of obstructive and abusive delays, for which provision was made by other Orders. The appointment of these Grand Committees was meant for questions of law, of trade, and other objects; but Her Majesty's Government had at their command the Grandest Committee in the world. Why, he asked, did they introduce so few measures of uncontentioned character in the House of Lords? There was to be found the highest legal talent. What could be a more fitting Court than the House of Lords? Where, on all questions of law, could they find superior advice or authority? They were told that they were to refer to those Grand Committees merely non-political and non-party questions—that was to say, they were not to refer to them Business which excited controversies in the country. For this task the House of Lords was eminently adapted. In what Grand Committee was to be found knowledge and other qualities equal to those which the House of Lords possessed for the discussion of such subjects? He felt the force of the objection that if these proposed Grand Committees were to be really efficient, particularly upon questions of law, they must not sit during the Sittings of the House. But there was another objection; these Grand Committees ought not to sit during the sittings of the Courts in Westminster Hall; for that would be tantamount to the exclusion of men of the highest legal talent in the House. It was impossible to avoid falling into one or other of these difficulties. He (Mr. Newdegate) thought the whole system of delegation dangerous, and yet as proposed that it was insufficient, and that the most important object to be attained in order to restore the efficiency of the House had been omitted—namely, the supervision before Easter, and again the supervision before Whitsuntide, of the state of the Order Book of the House; and this might be effected without empowering the delegated authority to exclude any of the Orders, but by authorizing it simply to point out to the House itself what Orders need not be proceeded with, and this with a view to the more deliberate consideration of those Bills or Orders which might be worthy of the legislation. He had been anxious to be allowed to address these few observations to the House, because it was no new subject with him.

The right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister pointed to the necessity for re-arrangement in 1873, and in 1875 he (Mr. Newdegate) brought forward proposals with reference to the non-Ministerial Orders on the Book. The right hon. Gentleman now admitted that the arrangement of Ministerial Orders was likewise in need of supervision. In his individual capacity as an independent Member of the House, he (Mr. Newdegate) would not venture to propose any Amendments, because he did not know that the Leaders of the Opposition would give them their sanction. In 1875, when he proposed Resolutions, the late Lord Beaconsfield, in courteous and respectful terms, declined to give them his support; but if Lord Beaconsfield were now alive, judging from what he then said, he believed that he would not treat those proposals as he had done in 1875, on the ground that the difficulties of the House were not such as to demand such remedies.

DR. CAMERON said, those who had listened to some of the speeches made, and who remembered that the Question before the House was the insertion of the words "or more" in the Resolution, must come to the conclusion that the speeches were prepared for delivery on the Amendment which was before the House last night, and were spoken to-day simply because the opportunity presented itself. He should attempt to go back to the immediate Question before the House. The hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell) proposed to leave room for the increase of the number of Grand Committees for the purpose of subsequently moving the appointment of Territorial Committees instead of the Grand Committees. That proposal was made in order to insert afterwards a provision that a Committee should be appointed to deal specially with Scotch Bills. He believed that if the Scotch Members were canvassed they would not find half-a-dozen who were in favour of that proposal. The reason given for the proposal was that it would save the time which the House gave to the consideration of those subjects. What would be the time which would be saved? It would be positively inappreciable. During the whole of the nine Sessions he had been in Parliament he did not remember any single Scotch Bill which occupied more than

one day in the Committee stage, with the exception, perhaps, of the Roads and Bridges Bill, which took two or three; so that, even supposing they had the Scotch Grand Committee, it would have nothing to do, and would effect no saving of the time of the House. What was the constitution he proposed for them? He did not propose that the Committee for the consideration of Scotch Bills should be exclusively composed of Scotch Representatives, but that it should consist in a large proportion—probably half of its Representatives—made up from other parts of the Kingdom. How would that work? How did the present system work? Whenever there was much difference of opinion among Scotch Members as to the details of any Scotch Bills, either they got a Morning Sitting or a Saturday Sitting, or made some arrangement by which they could discuss the question at length, and then any person who took an interest in the subject might join in the discussion, and the remainder of the House was at liberty to occupy itself as it chose. On those occasions, with the exception of such omnivorous Members as the hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton), or possibly the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar), the Scotch Members were generally left to themselves. When the discussion of a Scotch subject came before the House any Scotch Members who chose could take part in the discussion; but if they adopted the arrangement proposed by the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell), the result would be this. A Grand Committee would consist of about 80 Members, of whom about half would be other than Scotch Members, and the result would be that only 40 Scotch Members would be included, while some 25 or 26 remaining Scotch Members would be altogether excluded from the discussion of Scotch subjects in Committee. He thought that in itself was quite sufficient ground for scouting the proposal. It had been pointed out again and again that there were difficulties in the Scotch laws which rendered it most desirable that they should be considered by persons who understood something about them. That was an indisputable proposition; but that was met at present by a simple method. Any Bill requiring much consideration

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in detail was referred to a Select Committee, and a large proportion of Scotch Members were put on that Committee. Practically those who were not Scotch Members took very little part in the proceedings. The whole thing was thoroughly thrashed out; and, as a rule, when Scotch Bills ran the gauntlet of a Select Committee, they were very seldom challenged when they came back to the House. If any Scotch Member took a particular interest in a Bill, as far as his experience went, the Member had only to intimate his desire to be placed on the Committee for that desire to be acceded to. He thought there were other and more tangible grounds for rejecting the proposal of the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy than merely those of expediency and want of time to discuss it. He, however, would not pretend to occupy the time of the House by going in any further detail into the matter; but having said what he had, he thought he had said enough to show that the proposal was quite untenable, and should, therefore, be rejected.

MR. GREGORY said, they could not regard the Amendment before the House without considering the consequences contemplated by it, and also without regard to the decision which the House came to on Tuesday night, which, he understood, practically settled the question that there should be two Grand Committees. [Sir R. ASSHETON CROSS dissented.] At any rate, it had gone a long way in that direction, and he did not consider himself at liberty to re-open the question of two Grand Committees. A considerable step had been made by the decision to which the House had already come. There had been a good deal of discussion on this subject, including a most valuable contribution from the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread). He (Mr. Gregory) regretted that that speech was not made before the House came to its vote on Tuesday, for a good deal of what the hon. Gentleman had said would have considerable weight with the Members who sat on the same side of the House with him. The other part of the discussion had not been altogether favourable to the scheme proposed by the Government. Whether there was time for them now to reconsider that scheme, or whether they would avail themselves of the suggestions which had been thrown out

for that purpose, he did not know; but he feared that after Tuesday's vote it was too late to re-open the question. He entertained all the objections which he stated at the time to the appointment of these two Committees, and he did not see how they could possibly be worked. They would land the House in several difficulties. There was the impossibility of drawing any line on which to work these Committees. There would also be very great difficulty with respect to the Members who were to serve on them. If they were to have a Grand Committee for legal Bills, to which all legal Bills would be sent, it would be composed of legal Members of the House. How were those Members to sit on a group of 18 or 20 Bills? It would take them a great part of the Session, and it would be necessary for the Committee to have the co-operation of the Law Officers of the Crown. If that was to be the case, the New Courts of Justice would see little of them, and their clients would have little of their assistance while the House was sitting. There were other objections to the scheme. Statements had been made against it which the Government had disputed; but they had been renewed that morning with great effect. He also regretted the selection that had been made for the operation of the Committees. Far too wide a scope had been taken for what was professedly on the part of the Government an experiment. The Committees were to embrace the whole of the subjects of law, commerce, and manufactures. It would be evident to everyone what a very wide branch of legislation was comprised in those terms. He regretted that this should be made a matter of experiment at all. He only hoped that the selection of the Committees would not be made on the principle of *fiat experimentum in corpore vili*, for he objected to law topics being comprised in that classification, and he objected altogether to its being made a subject of experiment. But as the Government had proposed the experiment, and the House had voted in its favour, he should be disposed to leave the working out of the experiment to the Government. Let them frame the details, and the House would see how the scheme would work. Let not the House attempt to interfere with the scheme or propose a counter-scheme, but leave the Government entirely responsible for it. Let

Dr. Cameron

them work it out in their own way, and then it would be seen how it worked. He believed that his anticipations would be verified by the result, and that the result would be on the responsibility of the Government.

SIR EDWARD COLEBROOKE considered that the Government had acted wisely in adhering to their original limitations. To have opened up the question raised by the hon. Member would have been to open the door to almost every suggestion that could possibly be made. He admitted fully the objections that had been argued on the other side against the proposal that had been submitted to the House by the Government; but they were difficulties which equally belonged to the present system. The proposals of the Government would not increase those difficulties, but would rather, he hoped, diminish them. The proposals were of a kind which he should be unwilling to support, if it were not that they had come to a block in the Business of the House, which rendered it important that some arrangement should be made which would enable them to get through their Business. For that reason, he lent his cordial support to the proposition of the Government in the limited form in which it was proposed, and as an experiment. Assuming that the difficulties connected with the formation of these Committees would be overcome, he thought the improvement that would be brought about would go far to remove many of the objections that had been felt. He would suggest that these Committees should be enabled to meet as early in the Session as possible, and that they should be open to reporters, so that the public should understand what was going on, and so that they should not have to fight the whole thing over again. While he cordially supported the proposal of the Government on the grounds he had stated, he deprecated, in the strongest degree, the proposal brought forward by his hon. Friend the Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell). If he did not know his hon. Friend, he should have supposed that his proposition was one hostile to that of the Government. But he deprecated the proposal on stronger grounds; he objected to the provincialism of the Amendment of the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy. As a Scottish Member he desired to see Scottish

questions discussed in the House; and it was only in cases of extreme pressure, where they could not get a hearing, that he had ever advocated Scottish Bills being sent upstairs. He thought they derived an advantage from the presence of English and Irish Members, and that the proceedings in connection with their measures should be open to discussion by Members from all parts of the United Kingdom. On the part of his constituency, he said, as well as for himself, very strongly, that he thought Scotsmen generally took much greater interest in Imperial questions than in questions purely Scottish, and they desired their Members to give their attention to those questions as well as to those relating to Scotland. He would not deny that there had been occasions in which difficulty had been experienced in the way of Scottish Business, on which he had proposed that a Bill should be sent to a Select Committee; but if the Government measure was successful in lightening the load that was pressing on the House, he trusted that Scottish Members, in common with those of the rest of the United Kingdom, would experience relief, and that their measures would have a better chance of being considered in the House than hitherto. Scottish measures were usually of a limited character, connected principally with questions of administration which need not be a great obstacle to legislation if the opportunity were given for their consideration. He trusted the proposal of the Government would embrace a good deal of Scottish Business. He thought, however, that the proceedings of the Grand Committees should be public, and that reporters should be admitted. Otherwise they would be regarded with suspicion and distrust. The Grand Committee on Law would be, he imagined, not on English law only, but on the law of the United Kingdom, and it would be in the power of the House to remit to it Bills connected either with Scotland or Ireland. He believed it would be a great advantage to Scotland. The noble Lord the Member for North Leicestershire (Lord John Manners) said Scottish Members would be in a minority on the Committees. But they were in a minority in the House, and they would not, therefore, be at any greater disadvantage in the Committees. Again, with regard to trade and commerce, there

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were questions in Scottish law peculiar to that part of the United Kingdom. He did not know whether the House would be inclined to send a Bill affecting Scottish banking to a Committee upstairs; but he should deprecate that course. He claimed, on behalf of his constituents, the right to have a voice in legislation as regards currency in England, and also that English Members should have a voice as regards Scottish currency. He thought the apprehensions of danger from this measure were very much exaggerated. It was stated in the late debate that we were on the eve of a revolution; but he did not think so. He thought the change proposed was a practical one, and that the danger lay within very narrow limits; and he had great confidence in the power of public opinion to right the matter in case any Government should endeavour to use this power unfairly or unduly, or press it in a way which would be dangerous to the country.

MR. O'DONNELL said, that the Resolution on which the House was now engaged professed to do no more than to appoint Standing Committees for the consideration of important Bills, and it did not contain any direction that the consideration of the Bills by those Committees should supersede their consideration by a Committee of the Whole House. They had to go to Rule 4 to find that a Bill referred to a Standing Committee was afterwards to be proceeded with as if it had been reported by a Committee of the Whole House. If Rule 4 were rejected by the House and Rule 1 were accepted, why should they limit to two Committees only the excellent plan of having Standing Committees to consider important Bills? Why should not the House have the power of appointing as many of those Committees as was necessary for the consideration of important Bills? He was, therefore, in favour of the Amendment of the hon. Gentleman the Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell), because if the Standing Committees were not to be in the place of Committees of the Whole House they would be an unmixed good. The hon. Baronet the Member for Chelsea (Sir Charles W. Dilke) had stated that the Grand Committees as contemplated by the Government would be of the greatest possible importance in preparing Bills for discussion in the

House; but the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread), a very experienced Member, had cut the ground from under the hon. Baronet's feet, because he had pointed out that those Grand Committees would not be really free to deliberate in the same way as Select Committees to which Bills were now referred. The hon. Member for Bedford said that those Standing Committees were not to be only Committees for inquiry, but Committees for bringing Bills a stage forward from the point of view of legislation—in other words, they would not only be inquiring Committees, but law-making Committees. Nothing would be allowed to be done in a Grand Committee which ran counter to the general policy of the Ministerial majority in the House. That feature of the Government scheme would, in his opinion, destroy the efficiency of the Grand Committees. Each Grand Committee was to be a microcosm, or the House in miniature, and would have to be provided with a Ministerial majority calculated to override any propositions brought forward within the bosom of the Grand Committee, just as the Ministerial majority in the House would be able to override any proposition brought forward by the minority of the House. That totally destroyed the essential value of the Grand Committee, and prevented it having any real worth as a means of maturing the consideration of measures. On the other hand, if the Amendment of the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy were accepted, the House would be in this position:—Take, for example, the case of the Bill for the Codification of the Criminal Law. If the existing number of Standing Committees were sufficiently burdened with other matters, the House could appoint a special Standing Committee to consider Bills of that kind. Twenty-five or 30 Members would be quite sufficient to form a body of experts whose deliberations would be of the greatest assistance to Parliament; whereas, if the proposal of the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy were adopted simply, the House would be driven to turn the Report stage into a discussion in Committee of the Whole House, and a great waste of public time would be the result. The Prime Minister favoured the proposal, as enabling the House to delegate a large portion of its work, thus providing leisure for the discussion of local affairs.

Sir Edward Colebrooke

That seemed to him very much like asking the House to do badly a part of its Business in order that it might apply itself also badly to the consideration of local affairs; and the result would be the addition of a great deal of acerbity combined with very little real progress.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL said, he should be obliged if, in order to save the time of the House, he was permitted to withdraw his Amendment. He felt he could not resist the view put forward by the Prime Minister, that, whatever his wishes might be with regard to a further extension of the scheme, he must be guided by what the House would accede to now. He (Sir George Campbell) thought himself fortunate in having elicited the speeches of the noble Lord the Member for North Leicestershire (Lord John Manners) and the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread). The very objections to the Government proposal made it obvious that it ought to go a good deal further. He, however, consoled himself with thinking that the addition of 15 Members which the Government proposed would, to a certain extent, meet his views.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. STANLEY LEIGHTON, in moving to insert, in line 1, after "Committees," the words "which shall not sit for more than three hours in any day," pointed out the necessity which existed for providing some period of leisure between the labours of the Committee and those of the House. Nobody could work the number of hours at present demanded from Members. At that moment the Secretary of State for War, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Speaker were upon the sick list, and all because of the high pressure at which the Prime Minister insisted on working. The consequence of this great stress of labour was that the Premier was obliged to refuse to receive a deputation the other day, one of his most important duties; and he therefore trusted the Government would consent to do something to relax the severity of the strain.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, after the word "Committees," to insert the words "which shall not sit for more than three hours in any day."—(*Mr. Stanley Leighton.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, that, however much the Government might appreciate the object which the hon. Member had in view, it would be extremely inconvenient to carry out that object in the way proposed. No doubt, one of the great difficulties involved in the first scheme was the amount of work entailed upon Members; but the House must remember that the scheme was only experimental; and he wished to say, as showing that the work of the House and the work of Committees might go on simultaneously, that in the first Session of the present Parliament he had himself sat on two Committees in addition to discharging the ordinary duties of his Office and his work in Parliament. The Government wished to try the experiment; and, as far as the arrangement of the hours was concerned, he thought it would be best left to the determination of the Committee itself.

SIR WALTER B. BARTTELOT said, he hoped that his hon. Friend would not press the Amendment, although he was bound to admit that there was a great deal to be said in its favour. He did not think that the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Board of Trade had quite met the arguments of his hon. Friend, especially when he said that it would be for the Grand Committees themselves to decide on what days they would sit. A more inconvenient course than that could not be adopted. His (Sir Walter B. Barttelot's) own notion was that, if they were to have these Grand Committees, certain days should be fixed upon which they should sit—say, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or, even better, on Tuesdays and Fridays, except, of course, when the House was holding Morning Sittings. He trusted most sincerely that if they had these Grand Committees there would not be Morning Sittings on the same day, because the Business of the House could not be disposed of if every day hon. Members were called upon to do so large an amount of labour as would be involved in sitting on Grand Committees in the morning, and at the House in the afternoon, simply to pass Bills that might or might not be required. There was no doubt that there was a great tendency just now to over-legislate, and in

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that connection he wished to point out that the Private Bill legislation of the country was as important to those districts to which it related as any Bill that could be introduced by the Government. He hoped the House might hear from the Government that it was their intention to name definite days on which the Grand Committees might sit.

MR. GREGORY considered that there should be a fixed rule as to the time at which the Committees should meet.

MR. O'DONNELL wished to call attention to the fact that in the French Chamber, where the work of the Bureau was somewhat similar to that of the proposed Grand Committee, the Chamber did not meet on the same day as the Bureau. The remarks of the President of the Board of Trade very well illustrated the enormous difference which existed between Members of the Government, who were professional politicians, receiving salaries, and private Members, who, in addition to their duties in the House, had to earn their own living or support themselves out of their private incomes. The first-mentioned class could, of course, devote their whole time to their Parliamentary work; but it was impossible for the second to do so. Unless the work of these Committees was made light for ordinary shoulders, the Grand Committees would simply be more and more a refuge for official Members, or else Members would require to receive a salary for the discharge of their public duties.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (MR. LYON PLAYFAIR) pointed out that the Question before the House was not one of the days, but simply one of the hours during which the Committees should sit.

Question put, and *negatived*.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS proposed to insert, in line 1, after "Committees," the words "which shall only sit whilst the House is not sitting." He said it was impossible for a man to be in two places at once. That proposition was so simple that he did not propose to support it by argument. The fact was that this scheme of the Government was a perfectly crude one which the Government had never fully considered.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, after the word "Committees," to insert the words "which shall only sit whilst

Sir Walter B. Barttelot

the House is not sitting."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL proposed to amend the Amendment by adding the words "and on Tuesdays and Fridays, from noon till 4." It would be obviously inconvenient that the Committees should be sitting on the same day that Government Business was taken, because that naturally attracted a large number of Members. As regards the appointment of the hours and days of meeting, he strongly urged the Government to fix them themselves. No more obstructive discussion could be possibly conceived, as was very well illustrated in the case of the Railway Rates Committee, than a discussion by a large number of Gentlemen of the most convenient times of meeting. He thought the Government ought to fill in the sketchy outline of the scheme which they had presented to the House by stating on what days and on what hours Grand Committees were to sit. He begged to move his Amendment.

Amendment proposed to the said proposed Amendment,

To add, at the end thereof, the words "and on Tuesdays and Fridays from Noon till Four o'clock p.m."—(*Lord Randolph Churchill*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be added to the said proposed Amendment."

MR. RATHBONE said, he could not conceive anything more likely to render the new scheme ineffectual than the proposition of the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (*Sir R. Assheton Cross*). It was not at all certain yet at what time it would be desirable for these Grand Committees to meet. At the present time the Committees could not sit while the House was sitting without the leave of the House, so that this Motion was quite unnecessary, unless it was to fetter the action of the House and the Committees. The right hon. Gentleman the Member for Westminster (*Mr. W. H. Smith*) and the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire had accused the Government of not having given proper consideration to their plan. Well, he was prepared to say that it was these right hon. Gentlemen who had not given proper consideration to

the matter, otherwise they would never have made such an assertion. If they had taken the trouble they would have found ample warrant to show that the consideration of these Rules had not been confined to the present House, but had been before the House and the Government and Speakers of former times. This fettering policy was most unwise on the part of even the Conservative Party. It was not the quantity of Business that was of most importance, but the way in which Business was done. What was the case now? They did a lot of Business, but it was done so ill as to reflect discredit on the Government of the day, whether Liberal or Conservative, and on the House itself; and in these continual attempts to embarrass the Government in carrying on the Business they were gradually tending to discredit utterly the House of Commons in the eyes of the country. ["Oh, oh!"] He spoke with knowledge when he said so; and when his hon. Friend opposite (Mr. Whitley) had represented Liverpool for 11 years, as he had done, that hon. Gentleman would say the same. Scarcely a Bill passed through that House which was not shown by someone in a large constituency, before it had been in operation for more than a year or two, to have been drawn most carelessly.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: I rise to a point of Order. I wish to know whether the hon. Member ought not to address himself to the Amendment before the House?

MR. RATHBONE said, the Amendment, as he understood, was intended to limit the action of the Resolution before the House. The right hon. Gentlemen opposite had all gone into the general question much more fully than he had done. He ventured to think it was important to give as much latitude as possible to the experiment proposed by the Government. He would point out to the House that the object of these new Committees was to enable the House to divide its labours; and in order to do so properly the House ought to enable the Committees to sit at times when the commercial or legal Members could most conveniently attend without damaging the work which was before the House. Let them take a single instance. Suppose that a Motion was before the House on a Tuesday for the Marriage with a De-

ceased Wife's Sister Bill. That was a Motion very often before the House. Well, at the time such Motion was before them the probability was that every one of those great commercial and legal Members would have thoroughly made up their minds as to how they would vote, and they would not take the trouble to sit in the House during the discussion. Was there any reason, therefore, why a Grand Committee should not sit while that debate was going on? They must, indeed, make some effort to allow the Committee Business to be effectually done, and not have it "scamped." If any Member of the House had ever sat on Special Committees where the draftsman was present—which might be the case on these Grand Committees—he would know what an immense safeguard that was against misdrafting and carelessness. Bills in the whole House were not gone through so carefully as they would be in Committees, and it was desirable that these Committees should be allowed to sit at any time found by experience to interfere least with the convenience of the Members. He hoped, therefore, that as these Committees were an experiment, the Government and the House would not give way, but would leave the question as to the time of sitting to be guided by experience. If hon. Gentlemen opposite sought constantly to limit in every direction the operation of the scheme, the responsibility for its failure would not be with the Government, but would certainly be laid upon those Members by the country.

MR. DILLWYN said, he was not in favour of Grand Committees at all; but if they were to try the proposed experiment he hoped the Government would not destroy every chance of its success by allowing these Committees to sit contemporaneously with the House. If they should sit at the same time as the House the confidence of the country in the work of the House would soon be destroyed. If the House and Grand Committees should sit at the same time Members would not know which to attend, and there would probably be but a meagre attendance on these Committees when there ought to be a full one. By the institution of these Committees the Government would create confusion, and if they should be allowed to sit at the same time as the House

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that confusion would be worse confounded. He suggested the withdrawal of the noble Lord's Amendment, on the ground that that particular moment was not an opportune one for putting it forward.

MR. NORWOOD assured the Government that there was no desire on the Ministerial side of the House to obstruct their proposals. At the same time, the House would not be fulfilling its duty if it were not to discuss fully a scheme of such importance as that under consideration. If these Committees were to be a substitution for a Committee of the Whole House, at which reporters and strangers could always be present, it was clear that their times of sitting and the circumstances under which the Sittings were to take place should be clearly defined beforehand. If the House was prepared to abandon the right of discussing the measure in full Committee and in presence of the Press and the public, they were prepared to take a very serious step indeed; and it was, in his opinion, absolutely necessary that the days of sitting and the hours of sitting should be clearly and distinctly known. How could they expect merchants, or bankers, or shipowners, or lawyers to throw their business entirely on one side, unless they knew precisely when they were to sit, and for what number of hours? They ought not to be hole-and-corner Committees. To allow a majority in one of these Committees to determine at 4 on one afternoon the time of their meeting next day would be a great mistake. He should support the Amendment of the noble Lord.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, the Government would very thankfully accept assistance from whatever quarter in perfecting those Rules and in making them clearer, and giving a better chance to the experiment which it had now been decided to try. But it was not to Gentlemen who had a rooted dislike to the experiment that one could look for the most successful method of carrying it into operation. His hon. Friend who had just addressed the House had drawn a picture of what he was pleased to call a "hole-and-corner" Committee, settling from day to day the hour at which they would meet; but, in point of fact, the practice of these Grand Committees would be practically the same as the practice of Select Committees. A Select

Committee decided at its first meeting how often, and on what days, and for what number of hours per day its Business would be conducted. ["No!"] He asserted that that was the almost universal practice, and if they answered him by saying there were occasional exceptions, that only showed the importance of leaving a little discretion to the Committees. There might be circumstances in which a hard-and-fast rule would be inapplicable and inconvenient; and it was desirable, therefore, to give them at least as much discretion as a Select Committee. What was in the contemplation of the Government was that the Standing Committee would settle, at the commencement of its proceedings, the days and hours on which it would meet. The noble Lord (Lord Randolph Churchill) condemned what he called the indefinite nature of the proposal of the Government; but he himself was so undecided that, whereas he put down an Amendment that the meetings should be on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, he now changed his mind, and proposed only Tuesdays and Fridays. It was said that if the House did not settle on what days the Committees should meet, there would be Obstruction in the Committee on this very matter—that was really to impute to Members a desire to prevent Business, which he did not believe they would be found to possess. Looking to the subjects to be referred to those Committees, he did not believe that any Member would feel himself justified in obstructing its proceedings; and, if he did, he would not have the support of his constituents in so doing, because he could not allege that there were matters of great Party or Imperial importance involved. His hon. Friend the Member for Swansea had pointed out that great inconvenience would arise if Grand Committees met, as a rule, at times when the House was sitting. But nobody supposed that they would do anything of the kind. It might be said—Why not make that absolutely clear in the Resolutions? Why, what was the present Rule? The present Rule of the House was, with respect to Select Committees, that, except on Wednesdays and Morning Sittings, they should not sit when the House was sitting, except with the leave of the House. When this would be the general practice, he

Mr. Dillwyn

submitted that it would not be wise to limit the discretion of the Committee on an occasion when they might be discussing a certain point. The only question was, whether they thought it absolutely necessary to prevent the possibility of the House sitting for a short time under such special circumstances.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he thought the President of the Board of Trade was rather mistaken in comparing these Grand Committees to Select Committees. Indeed, they were called Standing Committees for the very purpose of distinguishing them from Select Committees. It was easy for a Select Committee, which had only one matter referred to it, to determine the days of the week on which it would sit for a certain length of time; but the case was altogether different in regard to a Standing Committee to which a large number of Bills had been referred. It would be very awkward to have the proceedings of a Standing Committee constantly interrupted by the ringing of the Division Bell of the House, especially as a Division might be taking place in the Committee itself at the same time.

SIR EDWARD COLEBROOKE said, he was of opinion that the Standing Committees should have discretion as to the time of their meetings. The Amendment was a restriction binding the Standing Committees not to sit while the House was sitting; but it was a Rule of the House that Committees should not sit while the House was sitting. The Grand Committees ought not to be tied down to any particular days. If the noble Lord's Amendment were carried the result would be that the Committees would not be able to adjourn over a particular day named by the House. It would also prevent them working *de die in diem*, and there was this fact to remember—that until the Bills were referred to them they could not know what Bills they would have to consider, and what time they would have at their disposal. For these reasons he should support the Government.

MR. RITCHIE said, he would remind the House that a Bill, after having passed through a Select Committee, had to pass through a Committee of the Whole House; whereas, under the present scheme, it would not be submitted to a Committee of the Whole House after having passed through a Grand Committee.

He thought a matter referred to a Grand Committee ought not be left to be decided once for all by a majority of that Committee, for it might happen that the minority included the very Members who were best acquainted with the subject, and most capable of discussing it. The hon. Member opposite had spoken of the zeal which would be shown by the Members of the Grand Committees; but the very thing it was necessary to guard against was too much zeal in pressing on Bills. The President of the Board of Trade, in opposition to the hon. Member for Carnarvonshire (Mr. Rathbone), had characterized the proposal that the Committees should be sitting at the same time as the House as "absurd," and he quite agreed with the right hon. Gentleman. The time of the meetings of the Committees should be arranged in such a way as to inspire confidence that the matters brought before them would be discussed with full deliberation. He therefore hoped the Government would accept the Amendment.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, it was difficult to see what amount of importance and dignity was to be attributed to these Standing Committees. When it was desired to impress the House with the power and importance of these Committees they were told that the whole power of the House would be delegated to them; but when Amendments were proposed on the assumption that such would be the position of these Committees, and an endeavour was made to prevent these Committees, to whom was to be delegated the whole power of the House, from clashing with the time of the House itself, they were told that the same Rules that governed the meetings of Select Committees would apply to these Standing Committees, and that the House need not lay down Rules as to the times at which they were to meet. If these Committees were to be like Select Committees, then the House would know how to deal with them; but if they were to be Committees to which the powers of the House were to be delegated, then the present Amendment was clearly a proper one to be accepted. The hon. Member for Carnarvonshire (Mr. Rathbone) had suggested that Members of a Grand Committee actually sitting might come in from the Committee to give their votes on any question before the House, and thus recon-

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cile their duty to the Grand Committee with their duty to the House. He ventured to say that a more monstrous proposition had never been submitted to the House of Commons; and he was glad to find that a Minister of the Cabinet, who spoke after the hon. Member, repudiated that proposition, for the President of the Board of Trade had expressed his opinion that it would not be convenient that the Standing Committees should meet at the same time as the House. If that was so, why should not the Government accept the Amendment of his noble Friend? Judging from the fervid tone of the hon. Member for Carnarvonshire, he believed he was the real author of this Resolution. They had heard from the Prime Minister to-day that if he had had his way he would have proposed something larger than this scheme. If this scheme was to work at all, he thought the adoption of the Amendment was absolutely essential.

Mr. WARTON said, he would remind the House that the Prime Minister had stated that it was the desire of many of the younger Members of the House to take part in the present discussion; but, instead of these intellectual juniors, the House had heard none but the old stagers in support of this scheme. The Prime Minister, in leaving the House, reminded him of a skilful leading counsel who, after making an able speech, rushed out of Court leaving his unfortunate junior to flounder on as best he could. Here the juniors knew nothing whatever about the case. He had never seen a more pitiful object than the President of the Local Government Board when he tried the other evening to answer questions that were put to the Government. ["Oh!"] He stammered and stuttered and stammered. [*Cries of "Order!" and "Withdraw!"*]

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. LYON PLAYFAIR) reminded the hon. and learned Member that the Question before the House was whether the Standing Committees should sit on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, from noon till 4 p.m.

Mr. WARTON said, he had no wish to be offensive; but the way in which the arguments against the Rule were met by the Government officials did not reflect much credit on their ability. As, however, the Prime Minister ruled his Colleagues and his Party, he (Mr.

Warton) wanted to know from those who at present occupied the Treasury Bench, if the right hon. Gentleman had left with them any instructions as to this particular Amendment? It appeared that in the absence of the Prime Minister, and in default of instructions, not one single Member on the Treasury Bench dare yield to any Amendments. All they could do was stupidly and stolidly to oppose every alteration.

Mr. GIBSON said, that it was plainly unbusinesslike to pass this Resolution without making some provision for the Sittings of the Grand Committees. The House itself was bound to sit on certain days and not to sit on others, and Select Committees and Private Bill Committees were also under regulation in the matter of their Sittings. Yet now it was proposed to form something unlike any other Parliamentary institution, and with the delegated powers of the House itself. If it were intended that the Standing Committees should have delegated to them certain duties heretofore performed by the Whole House, it followed that the Standing Committees were to be the Whole House of Commons *pro hac vice* in relation to their particular duties. If it were to be left to the discretion of the Committees when they would sit, would they not at once be met with the difficulty that, being in theory the House itself, they would sit at the same time—namely, through the night and at Morning Sittings? There was nothing whatever in the Rules to suggest that the Grand Committees should conform their proceedings to those of Select Committees. No argument had been presented in favour of the Grand Committees sitting at the same time as the House. If it were intended that they should sit at those times, it ought to be frankly stated; and some words ought to be inserted in the Resolution which would be a certain indication to the Committee of the times at which they were to sit.

Mr. GORST said, that, as the noble Lord the Secretary of State for India had now come into the House, he would make an appeal to him as to the position in which the House was placed. The President of the Board of Trade had stated that no suggestion of the opponents of Standing Committees would be received with favour.

Lord John Manners

MR. CHAMBERLAIN, interposing, said, that, on the contrary, his observation was that the Government would be prepared to accept assistance in making these Rules better, no matter from what quarter of the House it might come.

MR. GORST said, that the right hon. Gentleman also used words which undoubtedly conveyed the impression that any suggestions from those opposed to the principle of the Grand Committees would not be received with favour. He was not an opponent of Grand Committees on principle; and he trusted, therefore, that his suggestion might be favourably received by the Government. The House was in the unfortunate position of having to discuss the Resolution in the absence of its author; and there was not one Minister now sitting on the Treasury Bench who, in the absence of his Chief, dare make any alteration in the Rule. If the Prime Minister were present it was not improbable that the cogency of the arguments adduced in favour of an alteration of the Resolution would induce him to accept some Amendment. Hardly any Member in the House held that Grand Committees ought to sit when the House should be sitting. That being so, the Government ought to accept the view of his right hon. Friend. It seemed to him that these Resolutions would never form the groundwork of a satisfactory scheme, when the Government came down with a very crude, but still hard-and-fast proposal, which they proposed to modify, notwithstanding the general concurrence of the House.

MR. WHITBREAD said, he thought there was every excuse for the Prime Minister's temporary absence from the House. They should remember that the right hon. Gentleman's labours had been exceedingly arduous. He did not think that it would be convenient if Grand Committees were to sit during the Sittings of the House. Select Committees, however, often asked for leave to sit after the meeting of the House. At the same time, they seldom sat during debating hours; but there was from half to three-quarters of an hour before those hours were reached which could be advantageously employed. He, therefore, thought it would be reasonable to add to the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman opposite (Sir R. Assheton

Cross) the words "except by leave of the House obtained on each occasion." That would enable Grand Committees to sit during the same hours as those during which Select Committees could sit.

COLONEL MAKINS said, he hoped the House would not fall into the error of confounding the proposed Grand Committees with Select Committees. The former would have the power of advancing Bills a stage—a power which the latter had never enjoyed. He thought the Amendment of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) might be postponed for the present; but he should heartily support the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman.

MR. DODSON denied the assumption that these Grand Committees would have legislative powers. They would be in the position of a Select Committee to which a Bill had been referred, for, if the House should so order, the Bill sent to a Grand Committee would be referred back to a Committee of the Whole House. The view of the Government was that Grand Committees would, in fact, be Select Committees, and that they would *ipso facto* be liable to the Rules that governed Select Committees. Their meetings would therefore be governed by those Rules, and they would not have the power to sit except by leave of the House at the time during which the House sat, except on Wednesdays, and when there were Morning Sittings. As to the Amendment of the noble Lord, limiting the days on which the Committees should sit, it would be unreasonable and unfair to impose any such restriction upon them. He was afraid that the Amendment, if amended as suggested by his hon. Friend the Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread), would not give effect to the intentions of his hon. Friend, because it would prevent the Committees from sitting during Morning Sittings without the express leave of the House. The Government did not believe that any words were necessary to bring these Standing Committees under the Rules which governed Select Committees. But if it were the wish of the House that it should be more clearly expressed in words, the Government would have no objection to amend the Resolution by adding—

"The Sittings of such Committees shall be subject to the same Rules and Standing Orders as those of Select Committees."

["No!"] They must resist the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire, and the Amendment of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, that nothing in the debate seemed more unsatisfactory than the speech which they had just heard. There were only two Members who advocated the sitting of these Committees during the sitting of the House; but the hon. Member for Swansea (Mr. Dillwyn) had pointed out the great inconvenience of such a course. The hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread) must have forgotten what the Rules of the House were with regard to Select Committees, so far as regarded their sitting on Wednesdays and during Morning Sittings. The effect of the hon. Member's suggestion would be that Standing Committees should be placed on the same footing as Select Committees; and, therefore, on Wednesdays and during Morning Sittings they would be debarred from taking part in the Business of the House. Now, if there was one question more important than another it was the question of Supply, which, after Easter, was generally taken at Morning Sittings; and yet those Gentlemen upstairs, who might be debating matters of high political import, were not to be allowed to take part in the discussion of that which the Prime Minister, two days ago, stated to be their primary duty. There was really no analogy between these Committees and the ordinary Select Committees. Political questions entered very little, as a rule, into the deliberations of ordinary Select Committees; but the Standing Committees would have political questions of vital importance to deal with. It was on that account that the Prime Minister and the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Ripon (Mr. Goschen) had urged that these Committees should be made, as far as possible, a microcosm of the House. The proposition of the right hon. Gentleman had, therefore, only to be stated to be repudiated. He hoped the House would not accept any such proposal. He thought if the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had been present it would never have been made, and he

Mr. Dodson

deeply regretted that the right hon. Gentleman was not present.

MR. LABOUCHERE said, he hoped that the right hon. Gentleman would go to a division, and that the noble Lord would withdraw his Amendment. They had to thank Her Majesty's Government for nothing. What was objected to was that the Grand Committees should sit on Wednesdays and during Morning Sittings. It was absurd to lay down such a proposition as that these Committees were the same as Select Committees. There were to be 160 Members taken from the House—where they were to sit he could not say—they were to be called down constantly to divisions in the House, and then to rush back to their rooms. Many of those Gentlemen had the gout and all sorts of things, and yet they were to run up and down in that way. It was perfectly preposterous that 160 Gentlemen should be asked to sit and talk in one room and vote in another.

SIR GABRIEL GOLDNEY said, that, when Standing Committees were appointed, before it was the invariable practice to declare the days and hours at which they were to sit, they were generally allowed to sit from 9 o'clock till 12 or 2; but they were not to sit during the Sittings of the House. In the first Parliament after the Reform Bill, immediately after the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was voted, the House set about getting rid of Grand Committees. Lord Althorp moved for a Committee to inquire into the Procedure of the House; and, although no reference was made to the Grand Committees, it was the general feeling of the House that they should be done away with. Lord Althorp stated that the more convenient course would be to refer Bills to Select Committees, because the Grand Committees had dwindled down, and the necessity for them had passed away. In his opinion, both the time for the Sittings of the Grand Committees and the number requisite to form a quorum ought to be defined; and no sufficiently large quorum would be obtained if the Committees sat during the Morning Sittings of the House.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD wished to know whether the right hon. Gentleman opposite adhered to his statement that Grand Committees would have no

legislative functions, and that Bills referred to them would be in the same position as if they had not been so referred?

MR. DODSON said, that any Bill might, after the Committee stage, be re-committed by order of the House.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD asked whether it was intended that that should be done in the case of Bills sent to Grand Committees? The House could, of course, do what it pleased; but the point was one on which information seemed very desirable. Then, again, what would happen if a Grand Committee that absorbed, say, all the lawyers in the House were sitting while a legal subject chanced to be under discussion in the House itself? It would be a scandal if, owing to the Grand Committee and the House sitting at the same time, Members should be forced to run from one to the other to give alternative votes, without knowing much of what was going on in one or the other.

MR. NEWDEGATE said, that the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board had stated that all the regulations and conditions imposed upon Select Committees of the House would be applicable to those Grand Committees. He wished, therefore, to ask some Member of the Government whether those Grand Committees were to report upon each Bill which they were appointed to revise? A Select Committee was bound to report, and its Report contained not only the subject-matter which the Committee wished to convey to the House, but the whole proceedings of the Committee, so that the House should know, in the case of a Select Committee, what was the opinion of the individual Members composing that Committee, and had that for its guidance in judging of the Report. Were the Bills which came out of those Grand Committees to be presented to the House with no notice of the Amendments made in them? Was each Member of the House to be put to the trouble of comparing the Bill as it went into Committee with the Bill as it came back to the House, in order to ascertain in what particulars it had been altered? And was the House to be kept in ignorance of the opinion of the individual Members of the Grand Committees?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (MR. LYON PLAYFAIR) reminded the hon. Member

for North Warwickshire that the Question immediately before the House was whether the Grand Committees were to sit during the Sittings of the House.

MR. NEWDEGATE begged to excuse himself on the ground that an announcement had been made, through the intervention of the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board, that it was intended by the Government that all the Rules which were applicable to Select Committees were to apply also to those Grand Committees. For that reason he had put these questions, as it appeared to him that it was not really in the contemplation of the Government to apply to those Grand Committees and their proceedings all the Rules that were enforced in the case of Select Committees.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY said, he supported the Amendment on the ground that the Grand Committees would be so large that, if they sat simultaneously with the House, the latter would be deprived of its due number of attendants. Remembering the interruptions to which a Select Committee was exposed during the Sitting of the House by the occurrence of divisions and the stampede of Members from a remote Committee Room, he asked the House to imagine what would happen if Grand Committees rushed to the House on the ringing of the Division Bell, and whether it could tolerate the exaggeration of a performance that now often became ridiculous?

MR. MACARTNEY said, that if Members absented themselves from the House to attend a Grand Committee, or from a Committee to attend the House, they would be likely to revive questions that were decided in their absence; and the ease with which a Chairman could obtain formal leave for a Committee to prolong its Sitting would often impose a severe penalty on Members who would rather be in the House than in the Committee Room.

MR. HICKS said, he did not think that this question ought to be decided in the absence of the Prime Minister; and he would, therefore, move the adjournment of the debate.

Motion made, and Question proposed,
"That the Debate be now adjourned."
—(Mr. Hicks.)

MR. DODSON said, he thought the House was prepared to come to a decision upon the Amendment to the Amendment, and hoped that the Motion for Adjournment would be withdrawn.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL hoped the Motion would be pressed to a division, because the Members of the Government present had refused a concession which would have been granted long ago if the Prime Minister had been present. He hoped that all the Forms of the House would be resorted to in order to prevent the Resolution in its present form being passed.

COLONEL STANLEY said, they should not set up two small Parliaments by the side of the existing Parliament. This they would do if they established Committees with legislative as well as consultative powers, and without any restrictions as to the times and duration of their Sittings. ["Divide!"] If time had been lost to-day it was the fault of Her Majesty's Government. The argument, in the first instance, had been very strongly against Grand Committees sitting at the same time as the House. The President of the Board of Trade then stated that these Committees were to work in all respects in the same way as Select Committees did. Yet the President of the Local Government Board had directly contradicted that statement, and said that it was the intention of the Government that Grand Committees should sit while the House was sitting. He hoped that even now some Member of the Government would rise and indicate that they were prepared to meet half-way, not hon. Gentlemen of the Opposition, but the general sense of the House; and that would remove a stumbling-block from their path, not only on this Resolution, but on those which were to follow.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, the Government had consented that these Committees should work under the Rules applicable to Select Committees, and now they were asked for a further limitation. It was impossible at that hour to go into the subject; but the Government had no desire to run counter to the pronounced opinion of the House, and the House had not manifested any desire that a further limitation should be placed on these Committees.

And it being a quarter of an hour before Six of the clock, the Debate stood adjourned till *To-morrow*.

House adjourned at fourteen minutes before Six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Thursday, 30th November, 1882.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of Judicial Business only.

House adjourned at a quarter past Four o'clock, till *To-morrow*, half past Ten o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Thursday, 30th November, 1882.

MINUTES.]—NEW MEMBER SWORN—Right Hon. Henry Cecil Raikes, for the University of Cambridge.

QUESTIONS.

PAUPERISM (METROPOLIS).

MR. BUXTON asked the President of the Local Government Board, with reference to the steadily-increasing figures of pauperism in the Metropolis, Whether the present rate of increase is due to any special cause, or whether it is only an increase proportionate to the estimated increase in the population of the Metropolis?

MR. DODSON: In reply to the Question of my hon. Friend, I am glad to say that the increase in the pauperism of the Metropolis during the last few years does not exceed the proportionate increase in the population. On the contrary, it is rather less than might have been expected from the growth of the population. The increase has practically been confined to the last three years; and if the statistics of London pauperism between 1871 and 1882 are examined, it will be found that there has been a very large diminution in the number of paupers. In the year 1871 the number was

153,293; while in 1882 it was 100,323, showing a diminution of 52,970, although the population had increased by upwards of 600,000 persons. This result is the more satisfactory because the reduction has taken place entirely among the outdoor paupers. Between 1871 and 1882 there has been an increase of 14,396 in the number of indoor paupers in the Metropolis; but the number of outdoor paupers has been reduced by no less than 67,366 persons.

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881—
SECS. 19, 31—LOANS.

COLONEL COLTHURST asked the Secretary to the Treasury, Whether he has received any representations from the Board of Public Works in Ireland as to the providing of additional inspectors, there being now only one for each province in charge of the loans to occupiers for land improvement; and, if not, whether he will call the attention of that Department to the inevitable delays and disappointment which must result from the want of a sufficient staff of inspectors?

MR. COURTNEY: No avoidable delay has yet occurred in dealing with applications for loans under Sections 19 and 31 of the Land Act; but the increased number of the applications now coming in will probably necessitate increased inspecting assistance; and the Treasury will have no hesitation in sanctioning this if satisfied of its necessity.

ARTERIAL DRAINAGE (IRELAND).

COLONEL COLTHURST asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, having regard to the great and pressing need for arterial drainage in many parts of Ireland, the Government are prepared next Session to amend the Drainage Act of 1864, by extending the definition of the term "a proprietor," and thus enable occupiers to form Drainage Boards, and otherwise avail themselves of the said Act?

MR. COURTNEY (for Mr. TREVELYAN): This is a large and important subject requiring special consideration, which I can assure my hon. and gallant Friend it shall receive.

SPAIN—INTERNATIONAL LAW—SURRENDER OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colo-

nies, Whether he has yet received the Report of the Committee of Inquiry as to the case of the Cuban Refugees; and, if so, whether he will lay it upon the Table of the House?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes, Sir; the Report of the Committee of Inquiry was received yesterday morning at the Colonial Office; and it clearly condemns, as I anticipated, the conduct of the Local Authorities. I had hoped I should have been able to lay the Report and the Evidence on the Table to-day, together with the decision of the Secretary of State for the Colonies; but I cannot do so, because we have received a communication from the Governor of Gibraltar, Lord Napier, asking us to suspend our judgment until a letter is received from him, which is on its way, and which, I hope, may arrive to-morrow. The Papers and the decision of the Colonial Office will be laid simultaneously on the Table of the House.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: What is the objection to laying the communication received from Gibraltar on the Table, without waiting for the decision of the Colonial Office? Why cannot we have it at once?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, he did not think one moment would be gained by doing that. He hoped that to-morrow, or, at any rate, by Monday, all the Papers would be on the Table.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: How are we to discuss this question before Parliament rises if we do not have the necessary Papers?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: All I can say is that we have done the very best we can. We think the Papers ought not to be laid on the Table till the decision has been come to, and that decision cannot be given till to-morrow or Monday.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: I beg to give Notice that to-morrow I shall move for these Papers.

COLONEL CARINGTON: May I ask who is the official directly responsible for the surrender of the prisoners?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Really, this is a most complicated case, and Papers will be laid upon the Table of the House, and it is too much that I should say who is chiefly responsible.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER: Am I right in interpreting the hon. Gentleman's answer as being to this effect—

that the Government will not only see that the Papers are printed without delay, but that they will announce their decision in regard to the person responsible for this matter?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: We have nothing to do with the printing establishments connected with the House. All we can do is to promise to lay the Papers on the Table as soon as they are ready. That we do, and I think they will be on the Table to-morrow or Monday.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the Government have taken any steps to secure the release of the Cuban refugees by the Spanish Government; and, if so, what steps have been taken for that purpose; whether he will, at all events before Parliament is prorogued, lay all the Correspondence between the British and Spanish Governments upon the Table of the House; and, whether he will lay upon the Table of the House any communications which may have taken place from 1869 to 1871 between Her Majesty's Consuls in Cuba and the Governor of Rassam with any of Her Majesty's Secretaries of State, relative to the acts and proclamations of the Captain General of Cuba with respect to refugees or rebels escaping from Cuba?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: As I have often stated, unofficial representations have been made to the Spanish Government. The Report received yesterday has been referred by the Colonial Office to the Law Officers of the Crown; and official representations cannot be made until we know their views. Correspondence will ultimately be laid on the Table, but cannot be laid while communications are passing. With regard to the last paragraph of the right hon. Member's Question, if he will inform me who the Governor of Rassam is, I shall be happy to give him an answer.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: The hon. Baronet has not answered that portion of my Question which refers to Cuba.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The time has been rather short, and the Correspondence is long, and we have not succeeded in finding out anything yet. Mr. Dunlop was the Consul General, and further search will be made.

Mr. O'Connor Power

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: As many of us are of opinion that the right of asylum has been violated, and as no steps seem to have been taken to secure the release of the prisoners, I wish to ask whether we are to have no opportunity of discussing this question before Parliament rises?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: That is a Question of which Notice should be given, and which should be addressed to the Prime Minister.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: I will repeat it to-morrow.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—THE COURT VALUERS (MR. GREY).

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is the fact that Mr. Grey, Chief Court Valuer, acting for the Appeal Court, under the Land Act, at Lifford, county Donegal, valued a mountain holding on the Ogilvey Estate, held by a tenant named John Risborough, and consisting of twelve acres of bad land, at double the value set upon it by the two Valuers employed on behalf of the landlord; whether the Commissioners, or any of them, asserted that Mr. Grey included the value of houses on the holding, but, on the solicitor for the tenant demanding to have Mr. Grey's report examined, it was found that he had valued the land alone; and, whether Mr. Grey is the same official who valued farms on the estate of Lord Talbot de Malahide higher than the landlord's valuer; and, how long he will be continued as an Official Valuer of the Land Court?

MR. TREVELYAN: The following is a copy of a telegram which I have received from the Land Commissioners in reference to this Question:—

"It is untrue that the Commissioners, or any of them, asserted that Mr. Grey included in his valuation the value of the house on the holding. The case still stands for judgment, and we decline any answer to the remainder of the Question."

With regard to the inquiry whether the Mr. Grey alluded to is the same official who valued farms on the estate of Lord Talbot de Malahide, the answer is that he is not the same. I think I may also read part of a letter which I have received from Mr. Grey, in which he says that he valued another farm on the same estate on the same day, consisting of 70

acres without any buildings, the rent being £62, the tenant's own offer when he took it. The Sub-Commissioners reduced it to £56, and he stated it was not worth £44. He (Mr. Grey) asked why did not the hon. Member (Mr. Sexton) ask a Question about that farm?

MR. SEXTON asked, was he to understand that neither the right hon. Gentleman nor the Commissioners would give any reply with reference to a matter which was publicly stated in the Lifford Courthouse—namely, that Mr. Grey had valued the farm at double the sum fixed by the valuers of the landlord?

MR. GIBSON would like to ask when it would be convenient for the Chief Secretary to lay upon the Table the letter, extracts from which he read last night?

MR. TREVELYAN: When I get leave from the Land Commissioners.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT— FEES FOR AFFIDAVITS—

MR. F. HUSSEY, J.P.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether Mr. Fitzmaurice Hussey, J.P., Agent to Lord Dillon at Ballaghaderreen, has been in the habit of exacting a fee of one shilling from each tenant who came to him to take the affidavit at the foot of the application for the benefit of the Arrears Act; whether the taking of such a fee by a Justice of the Peace is illegal; and, whether the Lord Chancellor of Ireland will order the removal of Mr. Fitzmaurice Hussey from the Commission of the Peace?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have received a Report from the Lord Chancellor in reference to this Question, stating that Mr. Hussey denies having ever taken a fee for taking an affidavit.

MR. SEXTON said, he would take the earliest opportunity of calling the attention of the House to the frauds that were being practised on the poor people of Ireland in the administration of the Land Act.

STATE OF IRELAND (APPREHENDED DISTRESS)—TORY ISLAND.

MR. O'DONNELL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that the Inspector, who recently presented a favourable report with regard to the inhabit-

ants of Tory Island, consulted neither the Catholic clergyman, nor any other person acquainted with the real condition of the people; if the Inspector went inside any of the houses on the Island; and, if so, how many; whether he has heard that two heads of families begged for relief from the priest, on the ground that neither they nor their children had tasted food on the very day of the Inspector's visit; and, whether, on the day following the visit, seven families begged to be sent away from the Island, before they were face to face with starvation?

MR. TREVELYAN: The following extracts from the Inspector's Report will show the hon. Member that he has been misinformed:—

"The house of the Roman Catholic priest, the Rev. James O'Donnell, is near East Town, and from the deck of the gunboat, seeing him walking on the road near it, I sent a message by a boat that came out from the Island requesting him to come to West Town, near which was the only landing place where there was not heavy surf."

Further on in the Report he says—

"The Rev. Mr. O'Donnell kindly accompanied me, and gave me such information as he possessed about the people and their ordinary sources of livelihood."

And again he states—

"I thought it my duty to tell Father O'Donnell, before leaving, that I did not think there was anything so exceptional in their case but what the Poor Law could meet in its ordinary administration."

The Inspector adds that he was met with a good deal of reticence by others to whom he put questions. I have obtained a further Report from the Inspector, giving a more detailed account of his conversation with the Rev. Mr. O'Donnell, in which he mentions that he visited the national school with him, and that he entered several of those houses which appeared to be the poorest. When leaving the Island and on telling the clergyman, as I above quoted, that he had not found exceptional distress, the rev. gentleman mentioned two families that were so poor as to have to beg for help from him and their neighbours. The Inspector had not then time to go back and examine into those two cases; but promised that the relieving officer would soon be over on the Island, and would inquire into them. This is the latest information received from the

Island, and I have not heard of the seven families alluded to in the final paragraph of the Question. I will communicate with the Vice President of the Local Government Board, with a view of securing that the visit of the relieving officer is made as soon as possible.

MR. O'DONNELL asked, Was he to understand that the Inspector invited Father O'Donnell to come to East Town to him, and that the Inspector consequently did not visit the poor dwellings in East Town?

[No reply was given.]

MR. O'DONNELL said, he would ask a further Question on the subject on Monday, and that he would also ask if the Chief Secretary had seen the comments of *The Londonderry Journal*, which circulated in Donegal, upon the destitution in that part of Ireland?

INDIA (MADRAS) — REMAINS OF CHENDRIA.

MR. O'DONNELL asked the Secretary of State for India, Whether his attention has been called to the alleged treatment of the remains of Chendria, the leader of the late Insurrection in the Rumpu District of the Madras Presidency; whether it is the fact that, in order to obtain proofs of the identity of the slain insurgent, Chendria's head was severed from his dead body, preserved in carbolic acid, and presented by the authorities to the dead man's relatives for identification; whether the widow of the dead man was forced in this manner to identify her husband's head for the satisfaction of the authorities; whether he is aware that widespread horror was caused among the Native community by these acts; and, whether he will inquire if the remains of the slain insurgent were restored to his family for burial according to Native rites?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Various matters connected with the insurrection in Rumpu have from time to time been before the Council and myself; but my attention has not been specially called to the circumstances attending the death of the outlaw Chendria, who was one of the chief leaders of the insurgents. It appears, however, from records in the India Office that on February 12, 1880, Chendria was killed by one Jumba Pandiah, who had been

his partizan and lieutenant; that his head—which seems to have been cut off by his own people—was brought to Rajahmundry, to Colonel Buck, who was in command of the operations against the rebels, and that it was recognized by Chendria's brother, his mother, and a gaol warder who had had charge of him for six months. It also appears that the Madras Government telegraphed orders to Colonel Buck to keep the head as long as practicable for identification. On the other points referred to in the Question of the hon. Member I have no information. Chendria's death occurred nearly three years ago, at a time when the Madras Government were contending with a very serious insurrection; and I do not consider it necessary to institute any inquiries into the matter at this date.

MR. O'DONNELL asked, Whether the noble Marquess would inquire whether the remains of Chendria had yet been interred? It would seem not, as instructions had been given to preserve the head as long as possible for identification. He gave Notice that he would ask a further Question on the subject next Session.

PRISONS (INDIA)—MORTALITY IN BENGAL GAOLS.

MR. O'DONNELL asked the Secretary of State for India, What steps have been taken to reduce the mortality in the Bengal Gaols, since the last Report showed that, though less than in the exceptional year of 1879, it was still immensely higher than among the free population of all conditions?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: Since I presented certain Papers in July last the only additional information which has been received on the subject referred to in the Question is contained in a recent despatch from the Government of India. It is there stated that, in consequence of my despatch of the 25th of May—which is among the Papers presented—a Circular has been addressed to the various local governments with a view to insure greater vigilance in the matter of mortality. The Government of India consider that the diet scales now in force are sufficient to keep the prisoners in good health; but they have their attention still specially directed to the subject. They remark—and no doubt with reason—that the

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returns of deaths among the free population cannot be relied upon in the same sense as those of the deaths in gaol, where every case is strictly recorded; but the Government of India promise to send home annually a general review of gaol statistics, which will be carefully scrutinized.

MR. O'DONNELL asked whether the noble Marquess would direct inquiries to be made as to the effect, not only of the dietary scale, but also of the absence of ventilation and the overcrowding upon the health of the prisoners confined in those gaols? And also, whether he would take steps to ascertain whether it was true that the prisoners had to lie upon mounds of earth instead of upon beds; and whether these mounds of earth, having been used by generations of prisoners, were not often soaked with disease?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: The subject to which the hon. Member refers is now under the consideration of the Government of India, and they are now making the inquiries which the hon. Member desires should be made.

NAVY—PENSIONS TO WIDOWS OF SEAMEN AND MARINES.

SIR H. DRUMMOND-WOLFF asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, If Her Majesty's Government will be prepared next Session to introduce some measure for giving pensions to the widows of Seamen and Marines?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: Yes, Sir; it is our intention next Session to deal with the question of pensions to the widows of seamen and Marines killed in the Service.

SPAIN — INTERNATIONAL LAW — SURRENDER OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether the ladies who accompanied General Maceo to Gibraltar were surrendered, at the same time as himself, to the Spanish authorities?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY was understood to say that, according to the information which had been received, these ladies were conveyed in carriages with General Maceo across the British lines.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked whether the ladies did not land with General Maceo at Gibraltar; and whe-

ther they were not taken in the same carriage with him when he was conveyed by the police beyond the British lines? He also wished to know whether the ladies had accompanied him willingly?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, that he did not know whether they went willingly or unwillingly. All that was known was that, when General Maceo was taken beyond the British lines, these ladies were also carried beyond the British lines.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: By the police?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: Yes.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the ladies who accompanied General Maceo, when surrendered to the Spanish authorities by the authorities at Gibraltar, have been imprisoned?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: We have no reason to believe that these ladies have been imprisoned by the Spanish authorities.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked whether any inquiry had been made on the subject?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: If the hon. Gentleman will inform me that he has any reason to believe that these ladies are imprisoned, inquiries shall be made; but we believe that they are not imprisoned.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, that the information in the American papers, and that which he had received, was to the effect that they were imprisoned. He should like inquiries to be made on the subject.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: If the hon. Gentleman will show me the papers, I will cause inquiries to be made.

NAVY—THE ROYAL MARINES.

SIR JOHN HAY asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, If he will state whether the Royal Marines are at present above or below the numbers voted by Parliament, and if it is intended to propose an increase of that force in the next Session, and the re-establishment of the Woolwich Division?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: In answer to the first Question of the right hon. and gallant Admiral, I have to say that on the 25th of this month the Royal Marines were 16 under the

establishment. I must defer to next Session any statement in reply to the other two Questions.

IRELAND — RECENT INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES — MR. DAVITT, MR. W. REDMOND.

SIR WILLIAM HART DYKE: In rising to put the following Question, I wish to say that, having given two or three days' Notice of this Question, I should wish to have a definite statement from the Chief Secretary as to the intentions of the Irish Government in reference to this subject. I beg to ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, if his attention has been called to a speech reported in the "Standard" newspaper of 27th November, as having been delivered by Michael Davitt at Navan on the previous day, to the following effect:—

"As to the calamity staring some of the people of the West in the face, he would not mince language as to the cause of these periodical famines; but neither he nor Mr. Parnell would ever again beg for a starving Ireland. They would compel landlordism to provide for the starving people during the coming winter. Unless just and wise legislation ere long prevented its necessity, the time would come when the starving people of Donegal, Connemara, Kerry, and Cork would have to be told to march down on the plains, and seize the land upon which to live as civilized beings in a Christian country. If the tenant farmers of the West would pay the rent that should go to feed their children, then let them die, and Ireland and humanity would be well rid of such a coward race. In case they should not succeed in getting the Government to do its necessary duty, he proposed that they should make Irish landlordism support the people. He proposed, in case Mr. Gladstone did not apply the surplus of the Arrears Estimate to save the people, that no rent should be paid from this November until next May, and that out of this sum a portion should be placed in a National Relief Fund, by which to save the people from starvation;"

whether he has reason to believe that the above Report is substantially correct; and if the Government are taking note of the efforts now being made to stir up outrage in Ireland during the coming winter?

MR. REDMOND: Before the right hon. Gentleman answers, I would, by permission, ask him this Question—Whether his Predecessor in Office, and every person acquainted with the condition of Ireland, had not expressed the same opinion as that attributed to Mr. Davitt, that Ireland suffers from congestion of population in certain districts;

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whether it is not in those districts—Donegal, Connemara, Kerry, and Cork—that famine is apprehended in the coming winter; and, whether a re-distribution of the population over the rich grazing plains has not been advocated by several English statesmen; and, whether, in reference to that portion of the Question which charges Mr. Davitt with stirring up the people to outrage, it is not the fact that he has invariably warned the people of Ireland against the commission of crime?

MR. O'DONNELL: I would ask the Chief Secretary on the same subject, Whether his attention has been called to the fact that the principle advocated by Mr. M. Davitt—namely, a reduction of rent during seasons of extreme distress—has been recognized in the agrarian legislation of India?

MR. TREVELYAN: There is only one of these supplementary Questions that I need answer. I am quite aware that the seat of something like chronic distress in Ireland is in over-populated districts, which the Government hope to begin to relieve by emigration. It is possible that English statesmen may have recommended a transfer from these districts to the rich grazing lands of Ireland; but they did not recommend that that transfer should be made by illegal means. The Government had a shorthand writer present during Mr. Davitt's speech, and his report is substantially in accord with the report in *The Freeman's Journal*. In reference to the speech of the hon. Member for Wexford, the Government have directed their earnest attention, and have been directing their earnest attention since or probably before the day on which the first Question was asked on this subject. And I may say that questions relating to the treatment of speeches made on public platforms are absolutely the most difficult, and those which require the most consideration, both on grounds of policy and on grounds of law, of any questions which can be laid before the Government. I will, therefore, take this opportunity of saying that the Government have directed their earnest attention to the speeches of Mr. Davitt, of the hon. Member for Wexford, and of Mr. William Redmond, as to whom a Question was asked by an hon. and gallant Member opposite (Sir Henry Fletcher) a few days ago. Their conclusion is, that if

MR. O'CONNOR POWER: Am I to understand from the right hon. Gentleman that there is no charge alleged against these musicians, and that, nevertheless, the local magistrates prohibit them from pursuing their avocation?

MR. TREVELYAN: As far as I can gather, they express apprehension that their business of attending dances at night might be interfered with by the Prevention of Crime Act, because they think that it might discourage dances at night. As far as I can gather, there will be no direct interference with them.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER: The right hon. Gentleman has not stated whether the Correspondence which has taken place in this case will be laid on the Table. From the papers which have been sent to me, and which are stated to be copies of this Correspondence, it is plain that these musicians, against whom no charge whatever was brought, were distinctly prohibited from pursuing their avocations. May I ask the right hon. Gentleman whether they are at liberty now to resume their occupations?

MR. TREVELYAN: Most certainly they are. My reading of the Report is that they are perfectly at liberty. As regards the Correspondence, if it can be called such, I will look at it again, and if there is anything in it I will lay it on the Table.

MR. O'DONNELL: Could the right hon. Gentleman state under what clause of the Prevention of Crime Act dancing is forbidden in Ireland? I would also ask—and perhaps the Prime Minister would answer—whether it is only among the upper classes that dancing is permitted in Ireland?

[No reply was given.]

ARMY—THE FIRST CLASS ARMY RESERVE.

MR. STEWART MACLIVER asked the Secretary of State for War, If he can state when the remaining portion of the First Class Army Reserve now serving with the Colours are likely to be demobilized?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER (for Mr. CHILDERS): It is hoped that a further demobilization of the Army Reserve may be carried out shortly; and the War Office is now in communication

with Sir Archibald Alison, as the General Commanding in Egypt, on the subject.

STATE OF IRELAND—THE BALTINGLASS SHOOTING CASE.

MR. W. J. CORBET asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he can now state the result of the inquiry ordered into the shooting case at Baltinglass, county Wicklow; by whom was the inquiry held, and was it open to the public?

MR. TREVELYAN: Mr. M'Leod, the Resident Magistrate of the district, went over specially to Baltinglass, and made inquiries respecting the state of the town from several respectable persons living in it—from the clergymen, Protestant and Roman Catholic, from the bankers, and from some shopkeepers, and they all testified that within the last two months there has been a perceptible improvement in its state; and, under these circumstances, it was considered that no good, but possibly mischief, might arise from re-opening Mr. Asher's case.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND)—MR. M'LEOD, RESIDENT MAGISTRATE.

MR. W. J. CORBET asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If it is the fact that Mr. M'Leod, R.M., has on several occasions recently used language from the Bench calculated to excite and exasperate the people of the county Wicklow, which has been so remarkable hitherto for its peaceful character; whether, on a recent occasion at Baltinglass, in a case in which Mr. George O'Toole summoned Patrick Doyle for intimidation, by using violent and disgraceful language, and threatening to stone him, Mr. M'Leod allowed the defendant's attorney to call Mr. O'Toole "a big-headed ass" and "a brute" with impunity, and without a word of condemnation; and, whether the Government will censure such conduct?

MR. TREVELYAN: With regard to the first paragraph of this Question, Mr. M'Leod informs me that he has not at any time, from any branch of Petty Sessions, used language calculated to excite or exasperate the people of the county Wicklow. He has found it necessary to condemn strongly the system

of "Boycotting," which, though recently modified, had become a nuisance in the village of Baltinglass; but his remarks could only have given offence to persons engaged in this pernicious practice. In reply to the second paragraph of the Question, Mr. M'Leod states that he has no recollection of hearing the defendant's attorney in the case referred to call Mr. O'Toole "a big-headed ass." The attorney did call Mr. O'Toole "a curly-headed fellow," and was at once strongly rebuked by Mr. M'Leod, who also found it necessary to rebuke Mr. O'Toole for calling the attorney "a brute."

AFRICA (SOUTH)—THE TRANSVAAL — MARAUDING BOERS.

MR. W. E. FORSTER asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether he is aware that the marauding Transvaal Boers, who, assisted by deserters from the British Army, have for some time past invaded the territories of Mankaroane and other Bechuana Chiefs, have now established a quasi authority in South Bechuana Land, which is amenable to no civilized Government; whether he has received information that these Boers have recently made demands on Mankaroane for the cession to them of a large part of his territory; and, what steps, if any, are being taken, by either Her Majesty's Government or by the authorities of the Cape Colony, to restrain these elements of disorder on the British frontier?

MR. H. LEE asked the hon. Gentleman, Whether the Government has been informed that a considerable number of deserters from Her Majesty's Army have assembled in Bechuana Land, and are acting with the Transvaal Boers in their hostile movements; and, if so, whether any steps have been taken to bring these offenders to justice, and to protect the Native Chiefs in their exercise of their territorial rights?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: The Papers which I laid on the Table of the House nearly 10 days ago, and which I had hoped would have been before this in the hands of Members, will give the latest information which the Colonial Office has received. We have no information as to the establishment of a new authority in Bechuana Land; and the demands made on Mankaroane for cession

of territory have nominally up to this time only been cession to the Natives warring against him. I have already informed the House on two occasions of the proposals which Her Majesty's Government made for a joint mounted force of Transvaal, Orange Free State, and Cape police, to capture these marauders and adventurers, which have at present fallen through, owing to the Orange Free State and the Transvaal having refused to join, and Her Majesty's Government is not prepared to go beyond these proposals.

ARTIZANS' DWELLINGS (METROPOLIS).

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether his attention has been drawn to the evidence given before the Committee on Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings, 1881-2, as to want of sanitary regulations with regard to the erection of such dwellings in the Metropolis outside the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan Board; and, whether he will consider the advisability of giving further statutory powers to the local authorities?

MR. DODSON: I have referred to the evidence upon which the Artizans' Committee based the recommendations that many of the sanitary provisions of the Metropolitan Building Act should be extended to the suburbs, and I presume it is to this evidence that the right hon. Gentleman alludes. If so, I may point out that under the Public Health Act, 1875, all urban sanitary authorities are empowered to make bye-laws prescribing sanitary regulations with regard to the erection of dwellings, and any rural sanitary authority can have this power conferred on them. In this way sanitary authorities in the suburbs can make provisions in some respects even more stringent than those contained in the Metropolitan Building Acts; and in many cases not only have the sanitary authorities made bye-laws, but they have shown commendable zeal in enforcing them. I am not prepared to say, therefore, that it is necessary to give further powers to sanitary authorities on this subject; but I will consider the matter during the Recess.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he hoped the right hon. Gentleman would draw the attention of the local autho-

Mr. Trevelyan

rities to the powers they possessed. There could be no doubt that wretched buildings were being put up.

SEA AND COAST FISHERIES (IRELAND).

MR. LEAMY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, as one of "the trustees to aid the Sea and Coast Fisheries of Ireland," If it be a fact that out of a capital of about £35,000, the greater portion of which is lying idle, the trustees made loans to fishermen to the amount of only £2,244 for the year 1881, although they received in repayment for loans during the same period £3,392; if the expenses of management, including law costs, &c., amounted for 1881 to the sum of £748; and, if he will take the necessary steps to relieve the trustees of the management of this charitable fund, and to place it, as they requested some time ago, under the control of the Inspectors of Fisheries as an addition to the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund?

MR. TREVELYAN: The hon. Member states the transactions of the Trustees to Aid the Sea and Coast Fisheries of Ireland as regards loans and repayments in the year 1881 quite correctly. The expense of management in that year was £330; but that sum does not include law costs. I have not the Report for the year by me, and I cannot say what they amounted to. I have had the suggestion contained in the final paragraph of the Question under consideration, and am in communication with the Trustees and the Treasury on the subject; but the matter has not yet arrived at such a stage as will permit me to make any statement in regard to it just now.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT—COMPENSATIONS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether it is true that, at an inquiry held before Charles H. Teeling, esquire, in Cavan, on 13th instant, into the claim of William Trimble, Killaghduff, in barony of Tullyhaw, for compensation under the Crimes Act, Sub-Inspector Pearson, of Manlinton, applied to have such compensation levied on parish of Kinawley, and a few townlands in the parish of Templeport adjoining, and that Mr. Pearson then applied to have

every Protestant in the parish of Kinawley exempted, although they had not applied for exemption on their own behalf; whether the only Catholics recommended for exemption were two priests and one layman; and, whether, under the above circumstances, he will remove Mr. Pearson to another district?

MR. TREVELYAN: At the inquiry in question the Sub-Inspector recommended the compensation should be levied off the parish and townlands stated, and when asked by the investigator whether he thought any persons should be exempted, gave the names of those whom he considered should be so exempted, being in several of the cases ignorant of the religious persuasions of the persons; but, whatever the Sub-Inspector may have recommended at the inquiry, the charge on the district and all the details respecting it are determined by the Lord Lieutenant. I see no reason why Mr. Pearson should be removed to another district.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION— JUDICIAL RENTS.

MR. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware that, on the property of F. O'Beirne, esquire, a minor, in county Leitrim, the tenants entered their cases to fix judicial rents in January last and their cases have not yet been heard; if the above facts are correct, whether he can account for the delay; whether he is aware that the tenants have been already served with writs for the rent due on the 1st instant, although they remitted the amount on the 14th instant, and the rents are double the Government valuation; and, if these facts are correct, whether or not the tenants are entitled to any redress?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have frequently explained to the House, in answer to similar Questions, that cases are listed for hearing in the order of their receipt in the office of the Land Commission, and that any delay in hearing any particular case arises from the fact that a number of cases having priority have first to be disposed of. No information has reached the Land Commissioners of writs having been served on the tenants referred to in the Question. The Government valuation in the cases is £164 15s., and the rents £293 1s. 6d.

THE MAGISTRACY (IRELAND) — THE
MURROE PETTY SESSIONS—"THE
QUEEN v. PARKER."

MR. TOTTENHAM asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether, in the case of *The Queen v. Parker and Eakins*, for entering houses at night and demanding arms and money, informations were taken by Mr. Barrington, J.P., and returned by him for trial at the Murroe Petty Sessions; whether this gentleman declined to accept bail for so serious a charge, but committed the accused to gaol; whether the same magistrate was Chairman of the Bench of five magistrates which subsequently investigated and dismissed the charge; if he will state under what Statute a Petty Sessions Court is under an obligation to return informations for trials when satisfied that there is no case to go to a jury; if he will further state in what capacity Messrs. Lyster and Bourke sat at Murroe on the rehearing of the case; and, whether it is true that Mr. Lyster stated he was sent there by the order of the Lord Lieutenant, and would send the case on for trial on his own responsibility, even against the majority of the other magistrates?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (MR. W. M. JOHNSON): Sir, there are six Questions in this Question of the hon. Member, and the answers are:—To the first—Informations were not taken and returned for trial at Petty Sessions, nor could they be; to the second—bail for the appearance of the accused at Petty Sessions was, I believe, refused; to the third—no charge was dismissed; an application for informations was refused by a majority of the Bench; to the fourth—no Statute that I am aware of; to the fifth—as Justices of the Peace; and to the sixth—this statement was not made. I am informed that the Resident Magistrates stated that if a case was established in their opinion to go before a jury, they would, on their own responsibility, return the accused for trial; and the local magistrates stated that they did not contemplate taking any part in the proceedings in the case.

THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE—
CEREMONY OF OPENING.

MR. M'COAN asked the First Commissioner of Works, Who is responsible

for the arrangements in connection with the forthcoming opening of the Royal Courts of Justice, under which standing room to view the ceremonial within the building is provided for only two hundred members of the Junior Bar, while all other members of the profession, except Queen's Counsel and Benchers of the Inns of Court, are relegated to an open-air stand in the outer quadrangle, along with bricklayers' labourers and other workmen who have been employed in the erection of the building; and, whether there is not yet time to amend this arrangement and provide more adequate and befitting accommodation for the many hundred barristers who will thus be practically shut out from even witnessing a pageant so full of historical interest to all members of the profession?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE: The hon. Member has very much understated the accommodation I have been able to provide for the Junior Bar and for other persons. There are 1,700 places in the Central Hall at my disposal. I have appropriated 900 to the various branches of the Legal Profession, to the Judges, Queen's Counsel, officers of the Court, the Junior Bar, and also to the members of the Incorporated Law Society. I have also been able to erect galleries in the quadrangle, in which there will be accommodation for 700 persons. A considerable number of places will be provided in rooms overlooking the quadrangle. I have been in communication on the subject with the Treasurers of the Inns of Court; and I find they have not taken any exception to the arrangement that workmen who have been engaged on the building are to be admitted into the Courts to witness the ceremony. I have erected a gallery where 450 of them will be able to see the proceedings, and I may add that Her Majesty has consented to receive an address from them.

MR. J. R. YORKE asked whether it was true that tickets had been supplied to the jury in the case of "*Belt v. Lawes*," giving them accommodation in the quadrangle; and, if so, by what influence were they obtained, and on what principle were they bestowed?

MR. BROADHURST asked whether it was not the right hon. Gentleman's opinion that the bricklayers and labourers who had been engaged in the building of the Law Courts were as

much entitled to tickets as members of the Junior Bar?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE: I thought I had intimated my concurrence with the hon. Member in the answer already given. I think that these men, having been engaged in the building of the Courts, are as much entitled as members of the Junior Bar. With regard to the other Question, it is quite true that Mr. Justice Huddleston wrote to me asking for tickets for the jury in the Belt case, and I have sent him 12 tickets for the stand in the quadrangle.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: Why?

[No reply was given.]

EGYPT (EXPEDITIONARY FORCE) — SALE OF DRINK TO SOLDIERS.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON asked the Judge Advocate General, Whether it is a fact that, under the "Capitulations," it is impossible for our Military Authorities in Egypt to prevent the sale of drink to our soldiers by Greeks and Italians, &c., and that the result is seen in such outrages as the attack on the Arab who was lately killed by drunken soldiers; and, whether he will consider the advisability of placing our Troops, while in Egypt, under the Mahomedan Law, so far as it prevents their being supplied with intoxicating drink?

THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL (MR. OSBORNE MORGAN): I am not quite sure that I understand what is meant by the "Capitulations" referred to in this Question; but I may state generally that it is impossible for our military authorities in Egypt to prevent the sale of drink by Greeks and Italians, though, no doubt, they may, by placing certain localities out of bounds, or by similar regulations, prevent within certain limits the purchase of drink by soldiers. As to the second Question, I am afraid my hon. Friend must be labouring under some confusion of ideas. I do not know whether he thinks that because the Mahomedan law is a military law therefore all military law must be Mahomedan law; but I certainly have no power to place our troops while serving in Egypt under the Mahomedan Liquor Law—whatever that may be—or under any other Mahomedan laws or usages. I hope I may be permitted to add that I trust the outrage referred to

—of which I know nothing except what I have seen in the papers—will not be taken as a fair specimen of the conduct of our troops in Egypt, which, to judge by the courts martial which have come before me, has been exceptionally good.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON asked if it was true that the Egyptian authorities at Ramleh had informed a British Colonel that they would not convey soldiers returning from Ramleh if they were in a state of drink?

THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL (MR. OSBORNE MORGAN) said, he knew nothing whatever about it.

AFRICA (SOUTH) — ZULULAND — RE-INSTATEMENT OF CETEWAYO AS RULER.

MR. DILLWYN asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether Her Majesty's Government have received the despatch from Sir H. Bulwer, in which he submits his proposals with reference to the mode and time of the re-instatement of Cetewayo as ruler of Zululand; and, if so, will he lay a Copy of it upon the Table of the House?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: The Government have received the despatch from Sir Henry Bulwer. It has been carefully considered, and detailed instructions have been telegraphed to Natal directing Sir Henry Bulwer to proceed without delay to make the necessary arrangements and prepare for the speedy return of Cetewayo to Zululand. The Papers cannot be laid on the Table until Sir Henry Bulwer has made the proper announcements on the spot, as it would be most inconvenient that their contents should be known here before Sir Henry Bulwer has been able to communicate them to those more immediately concerned.

NAVY—THE DEPOT SHIP AT PORTSMOUTH.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether any report, the contents of which can be communicated to the House, has been received from the Naval authorities at Portsmouth relative to the state of the depot ship at that port; if not, whether a report on the subject will be called for, and the result laid upon the Table?

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MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN : No, Sir; nothing is known at the Admiralty of a special Report as indicated by the hon. Member's Question; and it is not thought necessary to call for one.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS (METROPOLIS)—REPORT OF CAPTAIN SHAW.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, If he has received from the Metropolitan Board of Works the Report of Captain Shaw upon the Theatres and other places of public entertainment; and, if so, whether he will lay them upon the Table of the House?

MR. HIBBERT (for Sir **WILLIAM HARCOURT**), in reply, said, that the Report in question had been received by the Home Secretary, and was now under consideration. It was not deemed expedient to lay it upon the Table.

MR. MACFARLANE asked whether they were to understand that if laid on the Table it would alarm the public; and if it was justifiable to allow the public to remain in ignorance of its contents?

MR. HIBBERT said, he was not able to state the reasons why his right hon. and learned Friend declined to lay it on the Table of the House.

NAVY—THE ROYAL MARINES.

MR. DIXON-HARTLAND asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether, with a view to make service on board Her Majesty's ships more popular amongst officers of the Royal Marines, and to increase their opportunities for practice in the administration of Military Law, as well as improve their position when serving with officers of the Royal Navy afloat and ashore, he will give them the same rights under the Naval as they possess when serving under the Army Discipline Act?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN : Sir, the subject to which the hon. Member's Question refers is a complicated one; and it would be impossible for me, within the limits of an answer to a Question, to state the views of the Admiralty upon it. The matter is under consideration, and I must reserve my answer until I make my annual Statement.

MR. GORST asked if he was to understand that the Government did not intend to put an end to the inequality that existed between the Marines and the Navy?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN could only say that at present he wished to avoid expressing any opinion on the part of the Admiralty on the subject.

PRISONS BOARD (IRELAND)—IRISH PRISONS — PENAL LABOUR SYSTEM.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If the Prisons Board (Ireland) ever received any paper or report or pamphlet on the Irish Prisons Penal Labour System, written by the Governor of Mountjoy Convict Prison; and, if so, if he will have any objection to lay a Copy of same upon the Table?

MR. TREVELYAN : On the 15th of January last the Governor of Mountjoy Prison submitted to the Prisons Board in manuscript some remarks on the utilization of convict labour with a request that he might communicate them to a periodical. The reply conveyed to him by the Board was that they did not approve their officers contributing to the Press. On January 26 he re-submitted the document, with a request that it might be forwarded to the Chief Secretary—I was not Chief Secretary at the time, and have not seen it—and it appears that in October last each member of the Prisons Board received a printed copy of what they believed to be the same matter, headed "For private circulation only." I do not think this is a kind of document which ought to be laid upon the Table.

IRELAND—QUEEN'S INSTITUTE, DUBLIN.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Queen's Institute (Dublin) is chartered; and, if so, in whom are the powers of the charter vested?

MR. TREVELYAN : I have ascertained that there is no record of any Charter to the Queen's Institute in the Hanaper Office or Record and Writ Office in Ireland; it would, therefore, appear that the Institute is not chartered.

NAVY—THE CIVILIAN BRANCH— NAVAL RANK.

MR. P. A. TAYLOR asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether officers of the civilian branch of the Navy ranking with Lieutenants, although not entitled to half pay, are, for this reason, liable to removal from Her Majesty's Service when, in the case of a Lieutenant, such removal would be inapplicable?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: There is no difference in regard to the powers of the Admiralty over them between a Lieutenant entitled to half-pay and an officer of the civilian branch of the Navy ranking with a Lieutenant, but not entitled to half-pay. Both are equally liable to have their names removed from the list of the Navy by order of the Board of Admiralty, and independently of court martial.

CRIMINAL LAW—"THE QUEEN v. JOHN DILLON"—MR. JUSTICE HAWKINS.

MR. FRESHFIELD asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been directed to the observations of Mr. Justice Hawkins in a case of The Queen against John Dillon, tried at the Central Criminal Court on Tuesday last; and, if he has taken, or will take, measures to give effect to the views of the Judge as to the prosecution of persons charged with robbery accompanied by violence and other serious outrages through the instrumentality of the Public Prosecutor?

MR. HIBBERT (for Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT): The attention of the Secretary of State for the Home Department has been drawn to the matter; and my right hon. and learned Friend is now considering what effect he can give, if any, to the expressions of the Judge.

NAVY—NAVAL ARTILLERY VOLUNTEERS.

MAJOR DICKSON asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, When the men willing to join batteries of Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers in Deal, Dover, and Folkestone, to be attached to the London brigade, may expect a definite answer to their application made in October 1881; and, do the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty contemplate accepting their services?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: The subject referred to by the hon. and gallant Member is still under consideration. The course to be taken as to Naval Volunteers will be stated when the Estimates are introduced, and we cannot deal separately with individual offers of service.

INDIA—HARBOUR WORK AT COLOMBO.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, To explain the progress made with the harbour works of Colombo, including the breakwaters; the amounts expended by the Colony; the sums advanced by Government; the original amount of the estimate; the calculated excess for works yet to be completed; the arrangements made by the Colony for finding funds to finish the works; and the decision of Government in regard to advancing the balance of the promised loan of £250,000; and, whether the Minute of the Lieutenant Governor, reviewing the state of the works and the expenditure, will be laid before Parliament?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: The harbour works were commenced in 1876, and considerable progress has been made. The south-west breakwater is nearly completed. The question of proceeding with or deferring the northern breakwater is under the consideration of the Ceylon Government. The total expenditure up to August 31, 1882, was £542,177. There has been £125,000 advanced by Government. The original Estimate was £630,000. The consulting engineer places the probable total cost, including the additional breakwater, at £903,710. The Legislative Council of Ceylon has agreed to provide a further sum of £150,000. The balance of a £125,000 loan from the Public Works Commissioners is available when required; but the credit of the Ceylon Government is so good that, for the present, they are able to borrow at a more favourable rate in the open market.

INDIAN CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE— IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

MR. HOPWOOD asked the Secretary of State for India, Whether the attention of the Government of India has been turned to the evils of the Law which

sanctions imprisonment, of a large number of persons, for debt in that Country; whether it is a fact that a vindictive creditor in Madras may keep the debtor for a long time in gaol, on paying for him, as subsistence money, if he be destitute, seven rupees per month, while the prisoner costs the Government, on the average, twenty-six rupees per month; and, whether the whole subject is likely to be early considered, with a view to the reform of the Law?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: The law relating to the imprisonment of judgment debtors in India is contained in the Indian Civil Procedure Code (Act 14 of this year). No one can (Section 342) be imprisoned in execution of a decree of a Civil Court for a longer period than six months, or for a longer period than six weeks, if the decree is for a sum not exceeding 50 rupees; and a debtor who has once been discharged cannot be re-arrested under the decree in execution of which he was imprisoned. As to the maintenance of debtors in prison, the Local Government is empowered (Section 338) to prescribe scales, graduated according to rank, race, and nationality, of monthly subsistence allowances. The subsistence allowance is payable by the decree holder in advance; and when the prisoner is committed to gaol the Court formally fixes the amount, fixing it according to the scales prescribed by the Local Government; or, if no such scales have been prescribed, allowing such sum as seems necessary with reference to the class to which the debtor belongs (Section 339). I have no information as to what are the scales of such subsistence allowance in common use in Madras. The Civil Procedure Code has this year been revised and re-enacted; and I have no reason to suppose that the Government of India contemplates any further amendment of the law at present.

SCIENCE AND ART—THE HAMILTON COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS—THE STATE PAPERS.

MR. COCHRAN-PATRICK asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, If the Historical Manuscripts Commissioners will print in their next, or an early volume, the Catalogue of the Scottish State Papers and other Historical Records relating to Scotland recently

Mr. Hopwood

acquired by the German Government from the Hamilton Collection.

MR. HIBBERT (for Sir **WILLIAM HARCOURT**), in reply, said, that an account of the Historical Manuscripts at Hamilton Palace had been drawn up by Dr. Smart, of Edinburgh, for the Historical Manuscripts Commission, and their Report was issued in 1870. Under these circumstances, it was doubtful whether there was any necessity for reprinting the catalogues.

MADAGASCAR—BRITISH SHIPS OF WAR.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether there are any British ships of war in the neighbourhood of Madagascar; and, if so, to state their names and force?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: The gun-vessel *Seagull* and two small schooners are at present at Zanzibar. On the East Indian Station, which includes Madagascar, we have, besides the flag ship, two corvettes, three sloops, and four gun-vessels. I may add that the *Fawn*, a surveying vessel, is also at this moment at St. Augustine's, on the West Coast of Madagascar.

JAMAICA—FOREIGN ENLISTMENT ACT—SEIZURE OF THE "FLORENCE."

BARON HENRY DE WORMS asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Whether it is true that a ship called the "Florence," supposed to contain arms, was seized at Jamaica under the Imperial Foreign Enlistment Act; that the owners in consequence brought an action against the Governor of Jamaica, and gained it; that, on appeal, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council upheld the decision; that the Governor of Jamaica, acting on the precedent of the *Lahave* case, asked to be indemnified for his act by the Imperial Government; that the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reply to his application, informed him that the sum must be voted by the Jamaica Council; whether it is a fact that two of the official Members of the Jamaica Council resigned their seats on this account; whether, in consequence of their resigning, the Secretary of State for the Colonies addressed an official Despatch to the Governor

ordering him so to fill up these two vacancies as to insure the passing of this Vote, and suggesting the name of one gentleman and leaving it to the Governor to name the other; whether it is true that, owing to this action on the part of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the sum of money having been voted by the Government majority in Council, the whole of the unofficial Members of the Council have resigned, as stated in a recent telegram; and, whether Her Majesty's Government will lay all the Papers relating to this transaction, together with the Despatch, upon the Table of the House? The hon. Member said that he wished to explain the first paragraph of the Question, otherwise it would not be perfectly clear. The following letter had been addressed by His Excellency Sir Anthony Musgrave, the Governor of Jamaica, to Mr. Thomas Capper, Chief Inspector of Schools in the Island—

"(Private.)—Flamstead, August 5.—My dear Sir,—I have been directed by the Secretary of State to ascertain confidentially whether you will accept one of the seats in the Legislative Council rendered vacant by the resignation of Messrs. Mackglashan and Burke, with the essential condition that you will be prepared to support the proposals of Government, not only in the question of the *Florence* damages, but always when called upon. I shall be obliged if you can favour me with an early reply.—Very faithfully yours, A. MUSGRAVE.—Mr. T. Capper."

To this Mr. Capper replied—

"Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's private letter of the 5th inst. Should I have the honour of being offered a seat in the Legislative Council, I should have no objection in accepting it subject to the conditions stated by Your Excellency.—I am, &c., THOS. CAPPER."

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: The most convenient way to answer the hon. Member's string of Questions is by laying the Papers on the Table of the House, which I will do. I would point out, however, an important error in his Question. It was not under an Imperial, but under a local Act that the *Florence* was seized; nor was there any decision given by the Judicial Committee on the merits, but only on an interlocutory appeal about the pleadings. Lastly, only half of the cost incurred was demanded by the Imperial Government to be paid by the Colony, as the Imperial Government was anxious only to call upon the Colony to bear the minimum of charge consistent

with a reasonable view of the Colony's responsibility in the matter.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT— THE MAGISTRACY.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether it is a fact that certain magistrates in the county of Galway have refused to take the affidavits of persons endeavouring to obtain the benefits of the Arrears Act, and are still refusing, notwithstanding the injunction of the Lord Lieutenant and the statement made by the Attorney General himself in this House?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): Sir, I do not know whether certain magistrates in Galway County have refused to take affidavits under the Arrears Act; but if it has been so, it will not, I apprehend, be so in future; because some days since, in consequence of a Question put to me by the hon. Member, His Excellency caused all the Resident Magistrates in Ireland to be apprized of his desire that every facility should be afforded to persons desiring to make affidavits under that Act, and I have reason to believe that this has already been attended with good results.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT—PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN.

MR. O'DONNELL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he is aware that the occupations of the majority of the inhabitants of Dublin prevent them from being within their houses constantly after five o'clock p.m., or earlier; whether he is aware that, in the case of very large numbers of the poorest inhabitants the wretched nature of their homes, frequently single rooms in badly-ventilated quarters, renders their compulsory confinement from five p.m. to eight a.m. every day both painful and unhealthy; and, what steps he will take to allow the inhabitants of Dublin, especially the poorest classes, to walk in the open air after five p.m. during the winter?

MR. PARNELL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the city of Dublin has been proclaimed under the provisions of the curfew section of the Crimes Act, and upon whose representations and with what object this has been done?

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked whether the right hon. Gentleman was aware that, according to *Thom's Almanac*, the sun set in Dublin yesterday evening at 3.43 o'clock P.M., and rose this morning at 7.53 o'clock A.M.?

MR. TREVELYAN: I will answer the Questions of the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) first. The City of Dublin has been proclaimed under the provisions of the Curfew Section of the Prevention of Crime Act. It was done on the representations of those who are responsible for the peace of the city and for the lives of the citizens; and it was done to preserve that peace and to save those lives. With reference to the Question of the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell), I beg to assure him that the powers of the section will not be directed against the people whose comfort and health he desires should be protected. The following supplemental Proclamation has been issued by the Lord Lieutenant:—

"Whereas certain atrocious crimes have lately been committed in the City of Dublin, evidently the work of a secret society, and whereas we, being determined to afford every protection to peaceable and law-abiding citizens, have this day, with the advice of the Privy Council, issued a Proclamation declaring Section 11 of the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Act, 1882, to be in force in the City of Dublin: now, we John Poyntz, Earl Spencer, Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland, hereby give notice that the powers will be so used as not to interfere with the comfort or convenience of any peaceable and law-abiding citizens, but will be directed against persons believed to be engaged in prosecuting criminal designs."

I know that the public servants who are directly responsible for carrying out the section understand and sympathize with the spirit of this Proclamation; and I shall make myself responsible for seeing that it is carried out in this spirit. With regard to a Question asked some little while ago by my right hon. Friend the Member for Ripon (Mr. Goschen), I may say now that the provision of extra force to protect the lives of jurymen and others, and to assist the police in dealing with violent crime, from the very first engaged the attention of the Government. It is, for reasons into which I need not enter, a very difficult and delicate problem; but the Government think they have found a solution to it, and are engaged actively in carrying out the arrangements which will meet the required end.

MR. PARNELL: I wish to ask the right hon. Gentleman who are to be the judges in case of arrests as to whether the persons arrested are about to engage, or are engaged, in criminal designs? I wish to ask the right hon. Gentleman, whether the police, in the first instance, will be the judge as to that in making the arrest; and, secondly, I wish to ask him, whether the persons arrested at night will be brought at once before a magistrate, or whether they will be kept in dirty police cells in the company of people of bad character during the whole night on suspicion? Thirdly, I wish to ask him whether the proceedings against the persons arrested in this way will be conducted in public or in private?

MR. TREVELYAN: I think it would be decidedly more convenient that I should answer these Questions to-morrow.

MR. PARNELL: I beg to give Notice of them for to-morrow, and I shall also ask the right hon. Gentleman, if he will lay upon the Table of the House Copies of the Instructions which have been issued to the police authorities in Dublin as to the way in which the Act is to be administered?

MR. SEXTON gave Notice that, on the same day, he would ask, whether, considering the power given under the Prevention of Crime Act to Justices of detaining persons for seven days before bringing them before the Court, the Irish Executive would issue special instructions to the Justices in this regard considering the large number of persons on the streets of Dublin, and the probability of innocent persons being arrested.

MR. HEALY gave Notice that, on the same occasion, he would ask, whether the provisions of the Act would be enforced against persons of a certain character who were in the habit of walking through Sackville Street and Grafton Street, and with regard to whom complaints had been made time after time to the Government?

MR. O'DONNELL gave Notice that, on the same occasion, he would ask, whether, considering that the police were to be largely reinforced from Manchester and Liverpool and other towns, unacquainted with the people of Dublin, what precautions would be used to prevent mistakes in the persons arrested?

INDIA—CONVICTIONS OF BRITISH
SUBJECTS.

MR. O'DONNELL asked the Secretary of State for India, Whether an English born person in India can be sentenced to penal servitude for life on the decision of a single judge without a jury?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: This Question is asked in continuation of others which have been put to me on the subject of the Salem trials, where certain persons have been convicted and sentenced to penal servitude by a single Judge sitting with assessors. It is the fact that no European British subject can be so sentenced by a single Judge without a jury. But this bare statement would give a very inadequate idea of the relations before the law of Europeans and Natives, without some reference to the extensive changes which have been made by recent legislative measures. It would take too long to state what those changes have been; but it may be enough to say that formerly Europeans could be tried only in the Presidency towns with a jury, and all cases had to be sent to those towns, and Natives were invariably tried by a single Judge without a jury; but now provision has been made for the local trial, with a jury, of Europeans committing grave offences beyond the limits of the Presidency towns, and also for a system of jury trials to be extended to all parts of India in which the state of society admits of it. It has already been extended to some parts of India, and will doubtless extend further whenever the Local Governments, advised by the High Courts, deem it practicable. Wherever jury trial does not exist, a Native is tried by a Judge with assessors, subject to appeal to the High Court.

MR. O'DONNELL said, that the noble Marquess had stated that though no British-born subject could be sentenced to penal servitude without having been found guilty by a jury, yet that Natives could be so sentenced by a Judge with the aid of two assessors. He wished to know whether it was also the fact that a Native could be sentenced to penal servitude for life by a single Judge acting in opposition to the opinion of both assessors? Also, whether it was not the case that a Native surgeon had been recently sentenced to penal servitude for life against the opi-

nions of both assessors, and had been transported to his place of punishment without waiting for the result of his appeal?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, that he had already answered the Question of the hon. Member. When a trial took place before a single Judge with two assessors under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Judge was bound to hear the opinion of the assessors; but was, of course, obliged to act on his own responsibility and judgment.

MR. O'DONNELL asked if the noble Marquess would take any steps to delay the infliction of the punishment of penal servitude on the gentleman referred to, pending the decision of the Appeal Court?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, that he had no official information as to the proceedings in the case mentioned, and he had no knowledge of it except from what he had seen in the newspapers. He had no doubt the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code would be strictly enforced, and he had no reason to believe that any injustice would be inflicted by them.

DUBLIN SPECIAL COMMISSION COURT
—CASE OF FRANCIS HYNES.

MR. CALLAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, from a Return ordered by the House on the 9th instant, and presented on the 20th,

"Of any Documents (except Official Documents of a confidential and privileged character) in the nature of Evidence or Memorials submitted for the Consideration of the Irish Executive with reference to the case of Francis Hynes; and, of any Letters written to or by the Lord Lieutenant with reference to such Documents,"

there have been two letters suppressed, written by Mr. Callan, M.P., and the reply thereto; whether the letters referred to were not a tender of evidence in no way excepted from the operation of the order; and, if so, whether he can explain on what grounds and by what authority the Irish Executive have disobeyed the order of the House by suppressing the letters referred to; and, whether the Irish Executive will now supply the omission by laying upon the Table the letters in question?

MR. TREVELYAN: As a general rule, the materials on which the Lord

Lieutenant exercises the Prerogative of Mercy are, perhaps, the last information which should be communicated to the House. In the case of Francis Hynes, out of justice to the jury, whose character had been attacked, the Government thought it proper to depart from this course. But I certainly contend that, by the form of the Return, the right was retained by the Government as to what letters should be included in that Return. If, however, the hon. Member will move for the presentation to the House of his Letter of the 25th of August, the Government has no objection to give it.

MR. CALLAN: And the reply thereto?

MR. TREVELYAN: Yes.

EGYPT (MILITARY EXPEDITION)— CAVALRY HORSES.

MR. BROWN asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office, Whether, in consequence of the loss in horses in connection with the Egyptian Campaign, an additional sum will have to be taken for cavalry remounts?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: Yes, Sir. In consequence of the loss of horses in the Egyptian Campaign, an additional sum has been taken for the Cavalry remounts, and this is included in the total amount of the war expenses given by the Prime Minister. Perhaps it may be interesting to the House to learn the exact state of the Cavalry regiments as regards horses who took part in the Egyptian Campaign. The Household Cavalry horses are now fit for, and are performing, ordinary duty. They lost, on an average, 30 per squadron, or 90 in all, including those killed in action. The Field Artillery horses are, for the most part, nearly fit for duty. The mortality among the horses of the regiments remaining in Egypt has not been of a very exceptional character, and has been due principally to climatic causes. The 7th Dragoon Guards have lost 72, and the 19th Hussars 50 horses. Both regiments have now been removed from Cairo, and the horses have much benefited by the change. The whole of the Artillery are also encamped outside Cairo. There remain the 4th Dragoon Guards, who have lost 267 horses, and a troop of Horse Artillery, who lost 96 horses. The mortality among these is decreasing, and the 4th Dragoon Guards have 200 horses

now fit for easy duty. But it will not be forgotten that this regiment made a forced march of 70 miles in less than 48 hours, and that not a trooper lay down nor a horse was unsaddled until Cairo was safe.

SCOTLAND—CROFTERS IN THE ISLAND OF SKYE.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether Her Majesty's Government will consider the possibility of giving to the remnant of the Celtic population of Scotland the same legal recognition of their ancient rights in the land which has been so liberally granted to the Irish?

MR. DALRYMPLE asked the right hon. Gentleman, before answering the Question, if he was aware that one of the most important points in dispute between the Skye crofters and one of the largest landed proprietors in Skye had just been settled by friendly arrangement; and, whether he did not think that such an arrangement so made was better than vague suggestions about ancient rights, or any interference by Parliament?

MR. GLADSTONE: The intelligence to which the hon. Member opposite has referred has not reached me; but I receive it with great satisfaction. I was about to have answered my hon. Friend that the relative rights of parties were so far in course of progress towards being fixed that the first step had been taken on the part of the landlords for the purpose of having them fixed; and that I did not think that a period like that, when difficulty attended that step and the actual execution of the law, was the time for raising any question of the nature of the Question; but I receive with great satisfaction what has been stated by the hon. Gentleman.

MR. MACFARLANE inquired whether the right hon. Gentleman would consider that, as the principal point in dispute between landlord and tenant had been removed, there was no longer any necessity for an inquiry?

MR. GLADSTONE: With the greatest possible respect to the hon. Member, and to the hon. Gentleman opposite, I think I may say the House will feel that I must wait for some further and more definite statement on the subject before I undertake to answer anything of the nature of the Question put to me just now.

Mr. Trevelyan

LAND LAW (IRELAND) ACT, 1881—
LOANS.

MR. SYNAN asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, as the Land Act of 1881 makes the drainage loan the first charge on the tenant's holding, and as the tenant must execute a deed of covenant for the due application of the money, and repayment of the loan, and the works are inspected from time to time by the Inspector of the Board of Works, the Treasury is sufficiently protected, without subjecting the tenant to the expense, delay, and difficulty of getting two solvent sureties to execute a deed of covenant for the repayment of the loan; and, whether he will, under these circumstances, recommend the last condition to be dispensed with?

MR. GLADSTONE, in reply, said, that in an argumentative Question the hon. Member suggested that there was sufficient security for the loan in the value of the holding; but in cases where the Treasury in England would be brought in immediate relation with small holders of land in Ireland, he must consider what position they would be placed in if they looked to the value of the land alone as their security. He was not prepared at present to take the course proposed; but he might, at the same time, assure the hon. Member that any suggestion having for its object the easy working of the Act in this particular would be carefully examined, and its practicability considered.

MR. PARSELL asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he can afford facilities, before the end of the Session, for a discussion upon the administration and defects of the Land Law Act of 1881?

MR. GLADSTONE: The administration and defects, real or assumed, of the Land Act form a subject of great interest, to which this House may not seem disinclined to recur from time to time; but I am bound to say—particularly when I remember the discussions which we have already had—that I do not think that the question stands in a position which would justify me in asking the House to depart from its present plan of proceeding in order to meet the views of the hon. Member.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR gave Notice that he would ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ire-

land, Whether it was true that Lord Ventry had intimated to his tenants that he would not join them in making applications to the Court under the Act unless they should first have repaid to him the money allowed as abatement in past periods of distress?

EGYPT (FINANCE, &c.)—THE PUBLIC DEBT.

MR. CALLAN asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he can submit to the House the calculation which the Right honourable Member for Ripon, about October 1876, showed to the Khedive, purporting to demonstrate that the application to the reduction of the Egyptian Debt of the yearly proceeds of the Moukabala; viz., £1,500,000 yearly for nine years, would reduce said debt from £90,000,000 to £35,000,000, i.e. by the year 1885; whether it is not the fact that, though said proceeds of the Moukabala were duly applied to the reduction of said debt, it was never appreciably reduced at all; and, whether, in fact, the said calculation did not show the foresaid favourable result by omitting altogether from the account of the necessary charges against the Revenue, both the principal of the floating debt amounting to (say) £20,000,000, and the interest thereon at about £25 per cent., which the Khedive had to pay to keep it floating?

MR. GLADSTONE: I may answer this Question very briefly, to the effect that all the facts bearing upon this question are, I believe, contained in a document before the House.

MR. GOSCHEN: I wish, by the kind indulgence of the House, to be permitted to answer the Question in further detail. If this calculation submitted to the Khedive is not in the hands of the Government, it can easily be obtained by reference to the archives in Egypt; and, if not, I shall be happy to place my copy, if I can find it, in the hands of the Government, to make such use of it in the matter of publicity as they may think fit. The document is falsely described in the Question as—

“Purporting to demonstrate that the application to the reduction of the Egyptian Debt of the yearly proceeds of the Moukabala would reduce the debt from £90,000,000 to £35,000,000.”

The fact is that the document did not deal with the sum of £90,000,000, but

with £59,000,000, and the error in the Question is only one of £31,000,000. In the next place, the Question suggests that the reduction of the Debt was to be obtained only by the yearly application of £1,500,000, as representing the Moukabala, the fact being, on the contrary, that the Moukabala is only to be applied in part for this purpose. The main Sinking Fund for the extinction of the Debt was to be obtained by the reduction of the interest on the Debt from 7 to 6 per cent, the difference of 1 per cent on the nominal amount being added to the Moukabala to create the Sinking Fund. The hon. Member then asks whether, notwithstanding the application of the Moukabala, the Debt was appreciably reduced at all? During the two years during which the Decree in question was in force the aggregate reduction of the Funded Debt, Unified and Short Loans together, was £5,000,000. Whether that was an appreciable amount or not I leave to the House to judge. Lastly, I am asked—

“Whether the said calculation did not show the foresaid favourable result by omitting altogether from the account of the necessary charges against the Revenue both the principal of the Floating—say, £20,000,000—Debt and the interest thereon?”

Again, the Question suggests the very contrary of the fact. It was the consolidation of the large Floating Debt of upwards of £20,000,000 which led to the whole re-arrangement of the Debt in 1876, and the Floating Debt of £20,000,000 is included and not excluded from the £59,000,000 of the Unified Debt. I trust I have answered this Question clearly and categorically. I would conclude by asking whether it is fair that Questions of this nature, suggesting the grossest *laches* on the part of an hon. Member of this House, should be put without such reference to the original document as would show that such suggestions are baseless?

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR asked whether the Prime Minister, in accordance with the advice of the Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Courtney), that the bondholders should pay a portion of the War Debt they had done so much to create, would recommend the Khedive to reduce the sums payable to the bondholders represented by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Ripon?

Mr. Goschen

Mr. GOSCHEN: Perhaps I may at once repudiate the suggestion which the hon. Member makes, that I am a representative of the bondholders. I undertook an honorary mission in 1876. My connection with the bondholders was closed shortly after, and I no more represent the bondholders than any other Member of this House.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR said, he did not say that the right hon. Gentleman represented the bondholders now, but when he went to Egypt.

Mr. O'DONNELL asked whether the Prime Minister would grant facilities for the discussion of the circumstances under which the arrangement of 1876 was concluded; and, in particular, for the discussion of the manner in which the Finance Minister of Egypt disappeared during the negotiations between the Khedive and the representatives of the bondholders?

Mr. GLADSTONE: No, Sir; I do not think the granting of those facilities, as far as they depend upon the Government, would be desired by the House, or would be advantageous.

EGYPT—ARABI PASHA.

Mr. BOURKE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether he will now give a day for the discussion of a Motion condemning the conduct of the Government for the surrender of Arabi Pasha; and, whether he has any statement to make with respect to the trial of Arabi Pasha?

Mr. GLADSTONE: With regard to the first part of this Question, I have to say that all the material circumstances of the case stand in the same position as that in which they stood at the time when I gave an answer to a previous Question on this subject. The reasons of public interest which prevented us from affording any facilities for the discussion, and which might preclude us from taking part—or, at least, any effectual part—in such a discussion, if raised, still subsist in their full force. Therefore, I have nothing to add to, or to take away from, the answer which I then gave. With regard to the second part of the Question, I have to say that there are several particulars connected with the proceeding in question which I am able to state with accuracy to the right hon. Gentleman and the House. The latest Report from Sir Charles Wilson, who is

watching the trial on behalf of the Government, is dated the 12th instant. It appears from this Report that the preliminary inquiry into the cases under investigation was closed on the 6th current, and that on the 12th current the Commission issued notices to the counsel for the prosecution and for the defence laying down the course of procedure to be followed, and fixing November 25 as the day on which the second part of the inquiry should commence in the case of those trials in which the first inquiry had been closed, and sufficient ground shown for the committal of the prisoners. Thirty days will be allowed for the hearing of the evidence in the second portion of the inquiry, which will thus close on December 25, our Christmas Day. The Government have not yet heard whether the second part of the inquiry was actually opened on the 25th instant, nor what prisoners have been committed for trial; but they believe that the inquiry was not opened on the 25th.

MR. BOURKE: Is the inquiry to be closed on a certain specified day, no matter whether all the evidence has been heard or not?

MR. GLADSTONE: A specific day has been fixed on which the second inquiry is expected to close. I may, perhaps, be able to give a more definite answer hereafter.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: What is the meaning of the statement that Sir Charles Wilson was watching the case on behalf of the English Government? Is he empowered to examine and cross-examine witnesses?

MR. GLADSTONE: I believe that my expression that Sir Charles Wilson was watching the case was an accurate expression. It is an expression of familiar use in connection with public trials. He has no power of interference in the trial; but he will know all that takes place.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: The right hon. Gentleman says that the question is in a similar position to that in which it formerly stood. There is, then, I suppose, no intention of abandoning the trial altogether, as has been stated in the newspapers?

MR. GLADSTONE: I am not in a position to give any information upon that subject; but we have not received any announcement that such a step is contemplated.

MR. MOLLOY: Will the right hon. Gentleman give the House any general information about Egyptian affairs this Session?

MR. GLADSTONE: It is impossible to answer that Question in a manner which would be satisfactory to the hon. Member, because we do not know when the Session will close. All I can say is that all information which can be communicated to the House, without injury to the Public Service, we shall be very desirous to make known to the House at the earliest opportunity.

MR. MOLLOY: My Question had reference to information already received.

MR. LABOUCHERE pointed out that there were two sets of rules of procedure agreed to by the Commission of Inquiry, and that under one set it was laid down that the defence was to be perfectly free to examine witnesses deemed expedient, the President having a right to declare the inquiry closed if the desire of the counsel to prolong uselessly the case was manifest; while under the other set of rules the whole case for the defence must, under all circumstances, be completed by the 25th of December. He wished to know whether that last regulation of the Commission of Inquiry coincided with the agreement that was come to between the Egyptian Government and counsel?

MR. GLADSTONE: In order that I may be quite safe in answering this Question, I shall be glad if the hon. Member will give me Notice of his intention to put it on a future day.

PARLIAMENT—RULES OF DEBATE— PRODUCTION OF QUOTED DOCUMENTS.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS wished to refer to a document quoted the other day by the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant. The document, having been quoted in the House, ought to be presented and laid upon the Table. He wished for a positive assurance that it would be presented.

MR. TREVELYAN said, that he had consulted the Clerk at the Table, and come to the conclusion that it was not possible to traverse the statement that the House was entitled to the document in question. That being so, he would make a further application to the Land Commissioners, who were concerned in

the matter, for leave to produce the desired Memorandum.

MR. GIBSON asked whether the right hon. Gentleman would lay upon the Table any communications from the Land Commission expressive of dissent from the recent decision of the Government in regard to Court valuers?

[No reply was given.]

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

MR. PARNELL: Sir, I beg leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance—namely, the extent to which the Land Act of 1881 has failed to carry out the intentions of Parliament and to satisfy the reasonable expectations of the Irish people; and the alterations necessary for the purpose of enabling that Act to fulfil their requirements.

MR. SPEAKER: Will the hon. Gentleman be good enough to give me in writing the definite matter to which he has now referred?

MR. HEALY: To a point of Order, Sir—I wish to ask whether, when the right hon. and learned Gentleman above the Gangway (Mr. Gibson) asked leave to move the Adjournment a few nights ago, he was requested by you to bring up a definite statement?

MR. SPEAKER: I have considered it my duty upon former occasions, when the same Motion was proposed to be made, to call upon the Member making it to bring up a definite statement to the Chair, because the Resolution of the House requires that the Motion made shall be for the discussion of some definite matter of urgent public importance; and, with the view of keeping the discussion to that matter, it is necessary that I should have the terms in my hand in writing.

MR. HEALY: Sir, I wish again to ask whether, when the right hon. and learned Member for the University of Dublin moved the Adjournment of the House on Tuesday, he handed to the Speaker a definite statement in writing?

MR. SPEAKER: I have already stated that on both recent occasions when the Adjournment of the House was moved a definite statement was handed to me.

MR. PARNELL having accordingly come to the Table with his statement in writing—

Mr. Trevelyan

MR. SPEAKER: Does the hon. Member desire to ask leave of the House to move the adjournment?

MR. PARNELL: I do, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it your pleasure that Mr. Parnell be now heard?

And there being many voices for and against—

MR. SPEAKER said: Is the proposal of the hon. Member supported by 40 Members?

Whereupon, a number of Members—less than 40—rising in their places—

MR. SPEAKER said: The hon. Member for the City of Cork cannot proceed with his Motion.

[The following is the Entry in the Votes.]

Mr. Parnell, Member for the City of Cork, rose in his place, and asked leave to move the Adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance; but the pleasure of the House not having been signified, Mr. Speaker called on those Members who supported the Motion to rise in their places, and less than forty Members having risen in their places, the House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

II. STANDING COMMITTEES.

RESOLUTION 1 (STANDING COMMITTEES ON LAW AND COURTS OF JUSTICE, TRADE, &c.)

[ADJOURNED DEBATE.] [THIRTY-THIRD NIGHT.]

Order read, for resuming Adjourned Debate on Question [29th November], "That the Debate be now adjourned on the Amendment proposed to the proposed Amendment to Main Question [28th November]."

"That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may be committed to them respectively."—(*Mr. Gladstone.*)

And which Amendment was,

In line 1, after the word "Committees," to insert the words "which shall only sit whilst the House is not sitting."—(*Sir Richard Cross.*)

And which proposed Amendment to the Amendment was,

To add, at the end thereof, the words "and on Tuesdays and Fridays from Noon till Four o'clock p.m."—(*Lord Randolph Churchill.*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have to point out to the House that the Question before it now is the Adjournment of the Debate, which was moved yesterday and not decided before a quarter before 6. The Question is, "That this Debate be now adjourned."

Question again proposed, "That the Debate be now adjourned."—(*Mr. Hicks.*)

Debate resumed.

MR. PARNELL said, he wished to ask whether, in view of the fact that nearly 40 Members rose to support his request, the Question should not have been submitted to the judgment of the House?

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Member had risen in his place at the time and demanded a Division, I should have considered it my duty to put the Question to the House.

MR. MACARTNEY rose to a point of Order. He said that after the clock marked a quarter to 6 yesterday the Question was put by the Deputy Speaker, and he said that the "Ayes" had it. [*Cries of "No!"*]

MR. SPEAKER: The proceeding was perfectly regular. The Question before the House was the Adjournment of the Debate; and at a quarter to 6 the Deputy Speaker, according to the Standing Orders, said that the Debate stood adjourned.

MR. ARTHUR O'CONNOR asked in what portion of Resolution 2 was it provided that a Division should be called for by the Member who made the request, the words being—

"If fewer than forty Members, and not less than ten, shall thereupon rise in their places, the House shall, on a Division, upon Question put forthwith, determine whether such Motion shall be made."

MR. CALLAN asked whether it was not imperative on the Speaker to put the Question if fewer than 40 Members, and not less than 10, should rise in their places?

MR. SPEAKER: If the hon. Member will read the terms of the Resolution he

will find that the latter part of the Resolution is in these words—

"Or unless, if fewer than forty Members and not less than ten shall thereupon rise in their places."

There is no direction to the Speaker to put the Question. It is the duty of the Member who wishes to move the Adjournment to rise in his place and to call on me to put the Question as he thinks fit.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, that the Adjournment of the Debate was moved yesterday because the House did not plainly know what the intentions of the Government were with respect to the Sittings of the Grand Committees; and they hoped that the view of the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board would not be the view of the Prime Minister. There was a distinction between these Standing Committees and Select Committees. It would be quite impossible, if the Members of these Grand Committees sitting upstairs were to be perpetually called down to take part in the Divisions of the House, that they could attend to their duties either in one place or the other.

MR. SPEAKER: I am bound to point out to the right hon. Gentleman that the Question before the House is the Adjournment of the Debate. The right hon. Gentleman is not speaking to that Question now. He must confine himself to that Question.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he would obey the right hon. Gentleman's ruling. He had quite forgotten that he was transgressing. He had sufficiently explained to the Prime Minister what was wanted, and that the ground upon which the Adjournment was moved was that there were different utterances on the part of the Members of the Government, especially with regard to Morning Sittings and Wednesdays.

MR. O'DONNELL said, he was sure it would lead to the saving of time if the Government would take that opportunity to clear up the apparent uncertainty which beset the minds of Ministers. What really caused the Adjournment of the Debate to be moved yesterday was that this House could not discern the consistency of the two ends of the Treasury Bench; and the Leader of the House being absent—he did not

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make that a matter of reproach to the right hon. Gentleman, for there was no Member of the House who better deserved occasional repose—there was no one to give a definite opinion. He did not think the Home Secretary was present, though he took upon himself sometimes to express the opinions of the Treasury Bench.

MR. GLADSTONE said, it would not be in accordance with the spirit of the Speaker's ruling for him to make any statement on the subject until the Motion for Adjournment had been decided.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 23; Noes 187: Majority 164.—(Div. List, No. 401.)

MR. GORST said, that, on behalf of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill), he begged leave to withdraw the Amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: The Amendment, having been moved by the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock, can only be withdrawn by the noble Lord himself.

MR. GLADSTONE said, that he had not been able to be present yesterday, as he was labouring under a very slight indisposition, which had now quite passed away. Whatever might have been supposed yesterday, there was no difference of opinion among his right hon. Friends on the subject of this Resolution. The Government, however, had again considered the question, and he would now state what they proposed. It was evident that the House was at liberty, if it chose, to authorize the Sitting of any Committee during the Sitting of the House itself; and that liberty ought not, in his opinion, to be impaired; but he agreed with the objection urged on the other side of the House, that the case of these Committees was not the same as that of Select Committees. The Sittings of Committees were governed by the general law, which provided that all the proceedings of Select Committees should come to an end on the meeting of the House, and that the Serjeant-at-Arms should notify to such Committees the fact that the Speaker had taken the Chair. An important exception to that general law was made by the Standing Order of July 21, 1856—

"That on Wednesdays, and other Morning Sittings of the House, all Committees shall

have leave to sit, except while the House is at prayer, during the Sitting of, and notwithstanding the adjournment of the House."

Therefore, he proposed to make an addition to provide that the Grand Committees should be excluded from the Standing Order of July 21, 1856. That would be much more convenient than introducing an exception in the middle of a sentence.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL begged to withdraw his Amendment.

Amendment to proposed Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, after what had fallen from the Prime Minister, he should ask leave to withdraw his Amendment.

MR. RITCHIE said, some Notice ought to be given when leave was going to be asked for a Committee to continue its Sitting.

MR. SOLATER-BOOTH said, he considered the statement of the Prime Minister satisfactory so far as it went; but thought there should be no recognition on the face of the Resolution that the leave of the House was to be asked for.

MR. DODSON explained that the effect of the Prime Minister's proposal would be that the Standing Committees would not be able to sit while the House was sitting even on Wednesdays, or at a Morning Sitting, unless leave was given by the House for the purpose.

MR. NEWDEGATE asked whether all the Rules of Select Committees would have to be observed in the proceedings of the Grand Committees? It was important that their proceedings should be presented to the House with any Bill they had amended.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked what was meant by obtaining leave of the House? The Speaker had ruled that it was the unanimous assent of the House. If leave were declined, inconvenience might result. A majority might wish to prevent a minority attending the House.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. GIBSON, in proposing, in line 1, after the word "Committees," to insert the words "which shall be open to the public and the press, unless the House shall otherwise order," said, there was no analogy between the proposed and any existing Committees; the analogy was rather with the general procedure

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of the Whole House. The Government said these Committees were to be governed by the Rules which governed Select Committees, unless it were otherwise provided in the Resolutions. If that were so, it would be competent for a Standing Committee to exclude the public and the Press, and to hold a hole-and-corner meeting. It was obvious that these Committees must be subjected to the checks imposed by publicity; and unless this were provided for in express terms the public could be ordered out of the room, and the inquiry held in secret. All he wanted to accomplish was that the proceedings should be as public as the proceedings of the House, unless for good reasons discussed in the House it should otherwise order; and if the Government assented to the principle, it was immaterial by what Amendment the object was attained.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, after the word "Committees," to insert the words "which shall be open to the public and the press, unless the House shall otherwise order."—(*Mr. Gibson.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL suggested that the question could be more conveniently discussed on a later Amendment, which stood in his name, dealing with the regulation of the proceedings of the Committees.

MR. GIBSON said, he quite agreed with his noble Friend, and if the Government would accept the principle of his Amendment, he should be quite satisfied.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he thought that the importation of the words proposed would give to the form of the Resolution an appearance of great awkwardness, and that the object aimed at might be better attained by the addition of a Proviso. There was no doubt whatever that the general rule of the proceedings of these Grand Committees should be publicity; and the question to settle was whether it would be desirable to make for them specially some Rule varying from the Rule observed in the case of Select Committees. To insist on such a stringent restriction as that a Grand Committee should never have the power to exclude Strangers except by a reference to the House, which would not be sitting at the time, would necessitate the adjourn-

ment of the Committee and lead to considerable delay. This was, therefore, a point of some difficulty; and, on the whole, he thought it would be better to postpone the consideration of the subject until they came to the Amendment of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill).

MR. RAIKES said, he hoped the House would not, without some further discussion, commit itself absolutely to the principle recommended by his right hon. and learned Friend (Mr. Gibson); for, if that principle were accepted, Grand Committees would be placed in a different position from any other form of Parliamentary action at present existing. A Select Committee, or the Committee of the Whole House, could at once exclude the public and the Press from its deliberations; and he thought great confusion might arise if Grand Committees could not exercise such a power without first obtaining the sanction of the House. He hoped the whole subject might be allowed to stand over until the noble Lord's Amendment came on for discussion.

MR. GIBSON said, that, as he understood the Government were favourable to the general principle of publicity, he would ask permission to withdraw his Amendment.

MR. O'DONNELL said, he should oppose the withdrawal of the Amendment. He could not think that this important question was likely to be better considered by postponing it. As Grand Committees would be selected according to the discretion of the Government of the day, they ought not to have the same powers of excluding publicity that were possessed by the House, by the Committee of the Whole House, and by Select Committees. He would move to omit from the Amendment the words "unless the House shall otherwise order."

MR. DILLWYN said, he agreed very much with the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell), but thought the subject might be more conveniently discussed on the noble Lord's Amendment.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he hoped the Prime Minister would give some intimation as to what he would do when the Amendment of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) was brought forward. More than once they had been asked by the Government to put things off till a

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further stage, and when the further stage was reached the matters were put off altogether. [*Cries of "When?"*] That had constantly been done in the case of every Bill introduced since the present Government came into Office. [Mr. GLADSTONE: When?] He thought they ought to know at once whether the Press and the public were to be admitted to these Grand Committees or not.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN said, he thought the remarks of the hon. Gentleman were rather severe, especially as he had only just entered the House, and was evidently quite unaware of the explanation which had been given by the Prime Minister as to the course the Government intended to pursue. His right hon. Friend had made a distinct statement that the Government viewed favourably the idea of giving publicity to the proceedings of the Grand Committees.

MR. ANDERSON thought these Committees would be so important that they should have some power of excluding Strangers just as the House had, and no more, and he should not be in favour of putting them in the same position as Select Committees. But in connection with the question of publicity it was important to consider where the Committees were to sit. It seemed to him that being so important they ought to sit in the House itself, in order that the public and the Press should have every opportunity of being present. He had no objection to the question of publicity being postponed; but he would urge hon. Members, with a view to the discussion of that question, to consider how the publicity that was required was to be provided.

Question put, and *negatived*.

MR. O'DONNELL then rose to move, in line 1, after "Standing Committees," the insertion of the words "one consisting of Irish Members." That Amendment, he said, provided instructions for the composition of the Standing Committee; and it was purely intended to facilitate and improve the transaction of Irish Business by the House. There was no ground whatever for the rumour in circulation that this was a Home Rule Amendment. The great difficulty which even well-meaning Administrations laboured under in dealing with the wants of Ireland was to know what were the wants of Ireland; and if his Amend-

ment were accepted, it would place at the disposal of every Government a safe and easy way of ascertaining the opinion of the Irish representation upon Bills under discussion. In making that proposal, he in no manner receded from his position as an Irish Nationalist, nor gave up his right to claim the restoration of a complete Irish Legislature; but, taking facts as he now found them, and seeing that legislation for Ireland would still be conducted by the Imperial Parliament, it was his desire to improve, as far as possible, the means by which Irish wants could be brought before those who insisted on making themselves responsible for the Government of his country. Even the opponents of Home Rule for Ireland ought not to oppose his Amendment; because, if ever there were sufficient guarantees to satisfy the most suspicious Imperialists about any proposal, they existed in the present case. If, for instance, a Bill were brought into the House to amend the law of Ireland, that Bill would, both on its introduction and on its second reading, be subject to the common consideration of all Members of Parliament without distinction. After that Irish measure had gone through that double ordeal at the hands of the entire House, he proposed that it should be subjected to detailed examination by a Standing Committee, consisting exclusively of Irish Members. There was no Party sectarianism about his proposal. He did not insist that the Committee should be composed exclusively of Nationalists, or of any other class of Irish Members, but only that there should be an Irish Standing Committee, to be recruited fairly and impartially from all sections of Members for Ireland, whether Nationalist, Conservative, or Whig. If the Bill were a law Bill, they would have on the Committee the most competent Irish legal Members to examine its details. If, on the other hand, it were a Bill relating to Irish trade or manufactures, again they would have on the Committee the Irish Members best qualified to deal with such questions. It would be a purely Irish Committee, inspired by a desire to promote the interests of Ireland, and free from the distracting influences of English Party contention. The legislation of Parliament would thus be enlightened and facilitated by having the aid of the deliberate opinion of the best Irish

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counsel on an Irish matter. Where was the danger to Imperial authority in that? The only novelty its proposal introduced would be the novelty of an Irish Bill being considered by a tribunal which would have the best right to judge fairly and competently about it. When the Bill had passed through the Standing Committee, the Report stage would be taken by the whole House. If, in Committee, the Irish Members had made such alterations in the measure as necessitated corrections, those corrections could be made, and the Report stage could only be passed by the consent of the Imperial Parliament, consisting of English and Scotch, as well as Irish Members. Again, the Bill could only receive a third reading with the consent of the British Members; and, after that, there still remained the further ordeal of the House of Lords. If the Amendment was not adopted he would be compelled to think that the Government did not wish to be informed as to what were the wishes of the Irish people. The Amendment had nothing whatever to do with the question of Home Rule; nor did he, by proposing it, in any way recede from his position as an Irish Nationalist, for the two questions were entirely distinct. His object in pushing the proposal was to supply the notorious want of information on Irish affairs which prevailed in English Cabinets, and which caused the failure of all the remedial measures introduced by them.

Amendment proposed, in line 1, after the word "Committees," to insert the words "one consisting of Irish Members."—(*Mr. O'Donnell.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. PARNELL: Sir, I rise to support the Amendment of my hon. Friend, and, in doing so, I may say that I think that Amendment is, probably, of more importance to the country that he represents than any of the various Rules and questions which we have been debating since the Autumn Session commenced. This matter has not been brought forward by my hon. Friend now for the first time. His proposition practically amounts to this—that there shall be a Grand Committee of Members representing the Irish constituencies for the purpose of dealing in Committee with Bills relating to the Law Courts of Justice,

and to trade, shipping, and manufacture. It has been pointed out by the Prime Minister that the experiment which he asks the House to make is not a very large one. If the experiment is not a large one, surely it would be well to give it a chance of success by having regard, in the composition of your Grand Committees, to those portions of the United Kingdom to which the Bills which are to be referred to those Committees relate. My hon. Friend pointed out that his proposal has ample safeguard by the power which the House would have to refuse to read a Bill a second time, by the power of amending it on Report, and, finally, by throwing it out on the third reading, if it be thought proper to take such a course. We reserve ample guarantees that ultimately all Members of both Houses of Parliament should be supreme with regard to every Bill referred to these Grand Committees. The great and overwhelming advantage which the adoption of my hon. Friend's proposal would bring with it would be this. It would put the House and the country in a position of knowing what the views of Members representing Irish constituencies really were upon Bills relating to Ireland, and I submit that it is of enormous importance that those views should be known. I cannot see in what way you can arrive at the views of Irish Members regarding Bills of this kind unless you adopt the proposal of my hon. Friend. I do not find fault with the Prime Minister for limiting his proposal to a class of Bills which are of a non-contentious character; but I do think that the way in which he proposes to constitute his Committees is radically defective, and of such a character as to render it necessary for us to oppose his Resolution at every stage and in every possible way we can within the Rules of the House. What does he propose? He proposes practically to place it in the power of the Government to refer those Bills to Grand Committees nominated by themselves. There is nothing in the Resolution proposed by him compelling the presence of a single Irish Member on one of those Committees on a Bill relating to Ireland; and if the principle is to be extended hereafter—if, as the Prime Minister hopes, he will be able to obtain as the result of this experiment the con-

sent of the House to a still further enlargement of the class of Bills which may be submitted to these Committees, it will follow that the Government will be able to submit to a Grand Committee nominated and appointed by themselves without the slightest power being placed in the Irish people to effect the appointment of the Members in question on Bills vitally affecting the interests of the Irish people. If the principle of nomination that the Prime Minister asks the House to adopt be ultimately agreed to, and if the result of that should be to induce the House to widen the class of Bills which may be referred to such Committees, the result would be that a Coercion Bill for Ireland might be referred to a Grand Committee, on which a single Irish Member might not sit. I look upon the adoption of such a principle as most perilous; and, therefore, I desire to urge upon the House and the Government the necessity of considering the Amendment of my hon. Friend, and of seeing whether the principle of locality should not be introduced into the method of nomination of those Committees. The proposal of my hon. Friend may, perhaps, savour to some extent of Home Rule. I admit that it is open to those who think so that the adoption of this proposition would be a step in the direction of Home Rule; but I do not think, after considering the matter for many years, that it would facilitate the obtaining of an Irish Parliament in the slightest degree. It is open to others to argue that it would be an impediment to Home Rule. I admit that such a contention is a fair subject for argument; but, for my part, having looked at the question from all sides, I am inclined to think that it would cut neither one way nor the other. Neither the advocates of an Irish Parliament nor the opponents of an Irish Parliament would be strengthened in the slightest degree in the position taken up by them in the adoption of the Amendment of my hon. Friend. The matter would rest exactly where it was, and the adoption of this proposition would have no effect upon the question of Home Rule one way or the other. So long as the national aspirations of the Irish people remain what they are, so long will the Irish people demand the restoration of their ancient Parliament, and no facilities for the purpose of pass-

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ing Irish legislation, no extra measures passed in that way will have the slightest effect in satisfying those aspirations. The Irish constituencies have the right of sending to this House a certain number of Members—105. This number has been reduced to 103 by the disfranchisement of two Irish constituencies. Speaking for myself, and I believe for a considerable number of the vast majority of the Irish Members, I can only say that we are exceedingly anxious that an opportunity should be afforded to us of pushing forward useful legislation for Ireland. We have occupied during this Parliament, and some of us during last Parliament, a most peculiar position with regard to this House; and, speaking for myself, I desire to say that I have never wished or intended to obstruct the Business of the House during the whole time since the assembling of this Parliament in 1880. I have opposed Coercion Bills. We have used all the Forms of the House, as we considered we were justly entitled to do, in opposing these measures of coercion. We were placed in this position—that we were compelled to oppose these measures to the utmost of our power, while knowing at the same time that the opposition we were using towards those measures was in effect delaying useful measures of importance for the Irish people which we desire to obtain or assist in obtaining. But so far as I am concerned, and I believe so far as the vast majority of my Friends are concerned, I can fairly examine my conscience—I can look back to every thought and feeling of mine during the time this Parliament has sat, and I can fairly deny that I ever desired or intended to obstruct the Business of the House in the slightest extent or slightest degree. On the other hand, I always checked and endeavoured to prevent any of my hon. Friends—and there may be some of them who desired to do so—and used whatever little influence I was able to use in order to prevent the obstruction of Business, and because I recognized that we in Ireland have at least as large an interest in facilitating the Business of the House, so long as there is a prospect of obtaining for Ireland her fair share of remedial and beneficial legislation. That is the view which I have taken of the question of the Business of the House, and I approach this question from the same point

of view. I earnestly desire to assist the Government, and many of us here earnestly desire to assist the Government, in arranging the Rules of the House in such a way as to enable the Government Business of the House to make progress; but I fail to see in the proposals of the Government up to the present any reasonable expectation that the time of the Government and of the House to proceed with its Business will be materially increased from what it has been in past times. I cannot help seeing that until you adopt a subdivision of labour it will be possible for minorities, small and large, in this House to obstruct the Business of the House, perhaps not just so easily, but just as effectively as they did formerly. The fact of the matter is, that as years go by the claims of the Empire and of the Kingdoms, which are represented by Members in this House, have increased so enormously that it is utterly impossible for any single House sitting together, no matter how it may restrict freedom of debate, no matter how it may be armed with Executive and original power, it is utterly impossible for any single House to attend to one-tenth of the Business which it is vitally necessary should be attended to. It is just as if the House of Congress or Representatives at Washington and the Senate were asked to do, in addition to all the Business they do, all the work which the 39 Legislatures perform during the year; and in attempting to obtain from this House a measure of work which it is utterly incapable to perform, you are simply straining every machinery and destroying every means which have done so much for the greatness of this country and Assembly. The proposition before us is one of a tentative character—it is one of the most useful character, for it proceeds on a right principle with regard to the nomination of the Committees. But if you neglect these principles, so far as the constitution of your Grand Committees goes, you would simply turn this House into a bear-garden, you would drive large sections of Members into courses of Obstruction who have steadily set their faces against Obstruction up to the present, and you would lose a great opportunity which I believe would now be afforded if something in the direction of what my hon. Friend proposes were adopted for solv-

ing the problem as to how the House of Commons shall properly provide for the great interests which are intrusted to it. It has been said that Irish questions have lately taken up an undue portion of the time of the Legislature. As I said a while ago, it was not our fault, and it was very much against our wishes, that certain of these questions, such as the Coercion Acts, should have taken up so much time. I myself would have gone a long way to prevent the necessity for the introduction of them, and I did go a long way. We have been told that very probably very little time would be given for Irish legislation during the remainder of this Parliament. I do not know how that may be; but what I would wish to submit to the House is this—that you have undertaken to legislate for Ireland, that you have inherited from former times the duties of attending to the legislative requirements of the Irish people; and so long as you insist upon the proposition that this House is capable and qualified to attend to the wants and wishes of Ireland, I say it rests upon this House, and it is absolutely essential that this House should take up and attend to these wishes and requirements; and in the absence of any other plan—and no other plan has been proposed by which you can attend to the wants of Ireland—I think we are entitled to ask the Government that they should give a careful consideration to the suggestions which have been made by my hon. Friend, so that, at least, a field of usefulness and of activity may be afforded to the Irish Members representing the counties and boroughs of Ireland upon questions in which they take a deep interest.

MR. GLADSTONE said, he was rather surprised at the speech which had just been delivered by the hon. Member opposite. The hon. Member had coolly made the extraordinary assumption that these Standing Committees would be nominated by the Government. The hon. Member had had the hardihood to make that assertion, when he was perfectly aware that the House had imposed the duty of making the selection of the Members who were to serve upon those Committees upon the Committee of Selection.

MR. PARNELL remarked that the Government could make any change

they pleased in the composition of these bodies next Session.

MR. GLADSTONE asked what power the Government had of making such a change except by the will of the majority of that House? In making that assertion the hon. Member was offering little less than an insult to the House. He must enter his protest against a practice which was growing, and which was pursued by certain hon. Members, of assuming that the command of the Government was the will of the House. It was, in his opinion, a monstrous proceeding, he the man who practised it who he might. It was rather too much for the hon. Member for the City of Cork, after he and his Friends had resisted to the utmost the attempt of the Government to subdivide the Business of the House, to come down now and to claim credit for speaking in favour of the principle. He was glad, however, to let bygones be bygones, and to meet the hon. Member upon a ground of common agreement. He agreed that if this were not merely an experiment that was about to be tried, but were intended to be a permanent arrangement, it would be necessary to take into consideration the peculiar position of not only Irish, but of Scotch and other Members—whose existence the hon. Member seemed entirely to have forgotten—so as to prevent them from being broken up into small bodies among these different Committees, where their action would be comparatively powerless. Unquestionably the condition of 63 Scottish Members, with the House divided into seven Standing Committees, would be totally different from the condition of 63 Scottish Members able to come down to the House when a Scottish Bill was before it in whatever numbers they thought proper. Therefore, he did not at all wish to shut out the consideration of that question, which, he thought, was absolutely necessary for any fair arrangement of a comprehensive and permanent character. He believed that the Resolution would go as far as they could in the direction desired by the hon. Member when the addition to it which he should propose was inserted, an addition which would have been inserted before, had it not been for the fact that many of the Amendments on the Paper would thereby have become dislocated. That addition was to the effect that the Committee of Selec-

tion should be enabled to make additions to the Standing Committees on particular subjects. The hon. Member knew perfectly well that the Amendment could not be accepted. He would not follow the hon. Member into his arguments about Home Rule, but would say that he invited the Government to sanction at this moment the principle that certain Imperial powers—the powers of the Imperial Parliament—should be exercised by bodies of Members taken exclusively from one part of the United Kingdom. He (Mr. Gladstone) greatly doubted whether Parliament would ever sanction anything of the kind. It must be clear to the hon. Member that if they were going to make an experiment it must be a modest experiment, and a scope and latitude of such a vital character as the hon. Gentleman suggested could not be given to the proposal; for that House to divide itself in the manner proposed would be a most singular and extraordinary innovation, and an innovation which the House would not, he thought, under any circumstances, be prepared to entertain. They were proposing to the House, and they were bound by the laws of their own proposal, arrangements of practical convenience. Therefore, how could they possibly accede to an Amendment which, to say nothing else, involved an enormous Constitutional innovation? They could not do it. A much milder proposal was made yesterday by the hon. Member for Kirkcaldy (Sir George Campbell). The proposal proceeded from the same basis, though it was much less rigorous in form. They were obliged to tell the hon. Member that it would be a breach of faith on their part to entertain even his proposal. How, then, could they adopt this Amendment? The hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) knew quite well that this Amendment could not be entertained. It would entirely destroy and dislocate the whole of the arrangement they had in hand. Upon what principle, when the House had voted that there were to be two of these Committees, was one of them to be given exclusively to Ireland, and to consist exclusively of Members from Ireland? The Amendment of the hon. Member might be a very good proposal for the ventilation of opinion; but it could hardly be meant seriously. If it was, there must either be great obliquity in the understanding of the hon. Mem-

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ber, or in the understanding of those who were the vast majority of that House, and who were of opinion that the question could not be seriously entertained, discussed, or dealt with. He (Mr. Gladstone) wished to leave all questions of an extension which might hereafter be given to any plan of this kind to depend on the success of this experiment. What they had to do—and the sooner they did it the better—was to determine the lines of this experiment. The Government wished to be moderate in their demands; they wished that what they settled now should be sufficient to enable the House of Commons to form some judgment whether or not these Standing Committees would be an effective instrument, bringing into play the great principle of the division of labour. For those reasons, he was unable to accede to the proposal of the hon. Member.

MR. HEALY said, he had no desire to see the Amendment of his hon. Friend passed except in mitigation of the proposition of the Government. He thought the right hon. Gentleman was hardly justified in taking his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) to task in the way he had done. The vote which the hon. Member gave on Monday was not on the abstract question, but was against taking the question of these Committees this Session. There was much to be said in favour of the proposal then before the House. Practically, these Standing Committees would be able to pass measures without the Irish Party being properly represented. There would be a large majority of the supporters of the Government on the Committee of Selection. He would like to have some assurance from the Government upon the extraordinarily vague character of this Resolution. He would like to know whether the Irish Land Law Act of last Session would be included in the phrase "Bills relating to Law?" If it was not law, why was it entitled "The Land Law Act;" and if it was not justice, he would ask, were not Courts of Justice appointed under the Act? In either case, he thought they had got the right hon. Gentleman on the horns of a dilemma. As they were likely to have a further amending Act, was it to be referred to a Committee on which there might not be a single Irishman? He hoped that, at any rate, provision would

be made that there should be some representation of Irish opinion on the Committee. [MR. GLADSTONE: The Resolutions provide for that.] He (Mr. Healy) admitted that the Committee of Selection were to have regard to the composition of the House. He repudiated the expression of the Prime Minister that there could be any insult whatever in their saying that the Committee of Selection would exercise a judicious flexibility with regard to any measure that the Government brought before them. Some of the most valuable contributions were made to the Land Law Act in Committee; and it was unfair that the Irish Members should not have a representation on these Committees in proportion to the opinions which they represented in the country. At the same time, he believed that no Grand Committee would be acceptable to the Irish people, even if it were composed exclusively of irreconcilable Members of the Irish Party. Anything like such "attorning," as he might call it, to the English Parliament on the part of Irish Members would simply lead to their expulsion from their seats. He, however, supported the proposal, as some mitigation of the present system.

MR. JUSTIN M'CARTHY said, his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) had pointed out that there was no possibility, by the carrying of the Amendment before the House, of affecting in any degree the question of Home Rule. It certainly would not help, as far as he understood it, to forward the cause of Home Rule; but, on the other hand, if it in any way interfered with the growth of the clause he would not give it the cordial support he intended to do. In fact, without at all venturing to enter into the region of the prophetic, he would venture to say the grant of Home Rule to Ireland was a thing as certain as that to-morrow's sun would rise in the heavens. But, pending the time when Home Rule would cause the fall of Ministers and statesmen, and pending the time when the House of Commons would appeal to it as the only measure that would give reconciliation to Ireland, he would like to see some *modus vivendi* between the House of Commons and Parliament; and it was his strong impression that something of that nature might be found by the Amendment of the hon. Member for

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Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell). The speech of the Prime Minister was, he thought, marked by an amount of acrimony for which there was no occasion whatever. And he seemed to blame the hon. Member for the City of Cork for voting with the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), and now supporting the Amendment of the hon. Member for Dungarvan. His hon. Friend was perfectly consistent, for his hon. Friend, like himself, would rather that they would not approach these Committees at all, as he thought there was no use for them; but when the House had said that they would be established, then he endeavoured to mould their form so that they would be of some use to Ireland. The right hon. Gentleman had also said that to add another to those Grand Committees would be a breach of faith with the House, which had already decided that there should be only two Committees; and, that being so, it would be absurd that one of those two Committees should be relegated to the Business of Ireland alone. But there had originally stood on the Papers of the House proposals to have five or six Committees, and there could be no breach of faith when the number of Committees was left open, and that there were only to be two was settled by mere chance. Thus, his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork was perfectly within his right in endeavouring to make the best of the situation; and considering what had passed during the two years they had now left behind, and what might pass for some years to come, and how much the time of the House had been occupied with Irish affairs alone, it would not be so bad a division if there was one of these Committees for Ireland alone, and the other for the affairs of the Empire. The right hon. Gentleman had stated that he did not believe the time would ever come for the formation of Committees upon what might be called National principles; but the right hon. Gentleman should have taken counsel from a right hon. Gentleman who, in the course of the present Session, had proposed that there should be separate Committees, and one for dealing with Irish Business exclusively, and not the slightest disapproval was then expressed by the hon. Members who sat on the Ministerial Benches. The same

hon. Member had proposed that there should be Scotch and Welsh Committees also, and a number of Irish Members withdrew their opposition to them, on the ground that the passing of such measures would create a good precedent. On many questions which had at present to be dealt with by deputations to Ministers this Committee would be a great advantage. He should have thought that the Government would have viewed this proposal as the basis of an arrangement for compromise and settlement. There was nothing in the Amendment to which any man of common sense could object; for while it proposed to leave the details of Irish Bills in the hands of Irish Members, who best understood them, full power of revision, alteration, or rejection remained in the House at large. Nor did they ask for an Irish Committee composed solely of those of their own way of thinking. They wished the whole of Ireland to be represented. They desired that the Committee should be the mirror of Ireland, containing Representatives of every opinion and every class in the country. For those reasons he strongly supported the Amendment, which he hoped would also have the support of English Members who had any regard for common sense and fairness.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR said, it was the fault of the Government if the Procedure Resolutions were in such a form as to render the acceptance of the Amendment of his hon. Friend the Member for Dungarvan impossible, as it was in their power to pass them as they pleased. He also thought the speech of the Prime Minister was not fair to his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork, who had made as temperate and reasonable a speech as he had ever made in that House; yet the Prime Minister had made an acrimonious attack upon him. The right hon. Gentleman found fault with his hon. Friend for saying the Committee was formed by the Government. The Committee was formed by the majority of the House, and that majority was the Government. Therefore, his hon. Friend the Member for the City of Cork was not materially inaccurate in saying what he did. He did not find fault with the Prime Minister for his faith in his majority. A well-known writer had said—
“Agreeable people are those who agree

Mr. Justin M'Carthy

with us ;" therefore, the Prime Minister could not be found fault with for praising his obedient majority.

Notice taken, that 40 Members were not present; House counted, and 40 Members being found present,

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, proceeding, said, the Government had put forward three qualifications with regard to those Committees. The first was that they would lead to a division in labour; secondly, that they would deal with non-contentious matters; and the third was that the supremacy of Parliament should be observed. He thought the proposal of his hon. Friend would meet each one of those conditions. Nobody would deny that it would be very much to the relief of the House of Commons if even a portion of the Irish Business were removed a stage from the House. English Members complained that England and Scotland did not receive their share of attention under the present state of affairs, and the Irish Members admitted that their complaint was well founded, and now came forward with a proposal to relieve the House of the pressure of Irish Business in a stage that took up much of the time of the House. There were many Irish questions which were neglected by that House, and which urgently required to be settled, such as the Grand Jury Laws, sanitary matters, and the encouragement of Irish manufactures; and with these questions a Grand Committee of Irish Members, Conservative as well as Liberal, would be best qualified to deal.

MR. T. D. SULLIVAN said, he thought it would be an immense advantage to make a concession in this direction. The Amendment, if adopted, would, in his opinion, facilitate the Business of the House of Commons and economize its time, and all the trouble that now weighed upon the House would pass away like an unpleasant dream. By the adoption of this Amendment the *clôture* and the other restrictions would prove to be quite unnecessary by-and-bye, and the Irish difficulty itself would disappear very considerably. The arguments in favour of the Amendment were numerous, weighty, and pressing. There was no doubt that the local affairs of Ireland needed to be more immediately dealt with than they possibly could be by the House of Commons. Reforms which

were never mentioned in that House, and which had no chance of being attended to now, were urgently needed for the prosperity of the country. The whole of the Business of Ireland was admittedly in arrear. The local government of Ireland was in an intolerable condition, while Irish Members were blamed because they tried to force Irish affairs which were neglected upon the attention of Parliament, and because they resisted the measures of repression which were brought forward from time to time. Although the Amendment did not, in his opinion, go at all far enough, yet he believed the direction was one in which they should travel. The opportunity was now before the House; but that opportunity would be useless if nothing was done in the way of relegating to some body or other the consideration of measures urgently needed by the present condition of Ireland, and entirely too long deferred. On this account he supported the Amendment, though he would be glad if it went much farther, and proposed that the Special Committee should sit in Dublin, where the whole of the circumstances connected with Irish Business could easily be brought before the Committee for their consideration. The House would thereby be released of its present trouble, and would revert to its old condition, while the New Rules would not need to be brought into operation. That would be the state of things that would occur if it were decided that a large share of the local Business of Ireland should be transferred to some Committee composed of Irish Members, though, even if composed of Irish and English Members, it would be a great improvement on the state of things proposed by the Government.

MR. SEXTON said, he thought the prospects of the Amendment, reasonable as it was, did not appear to be very brilliant. Irish Member after Member had risen and put forward a variety of reasons why the Amendment should be accepted. The Minister, at an earlier stage, in charge of the Business had left the House; and the President of the Board of Trade appeared to be enjoying that repose which, although well earned, was not very flattering for this Amendment. It was necessary to remind the House what had been said by the Prime Minister in reference to the two sections

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of this scheme. The first, which was composed of penalties, was not that upon which the Prime Minister placed his defence, but upon the second portion, which provided for the delegation and devolution of a part of the Business of the House to Grand Committees. He agreed with the Prime Minister that if there was any hope for the House it was to be found in the second branch. He did not believe that any system of *clôture* could ever relieve the House of the trouble of which it complained. So long as any body of men with strong beliefs and courage were to be found in the House, so long would they be able to escape from the penalties devised against them. If the Prime Minister did not rely upon the penalties, and if the penalties were intended to be used against the Irish Members, it was reasonable that the Irish Members should look to the second part of the scheme; but what was it that they found in the second part of the scheme? Was there consolation for the penalties levied against them in the 1st section? No; so far the contrary was the truth. They found, in the first place, that nothing Irish was to be considered by those Standing Committees. The Prime Minister, on the plea of excluding contentious Business, had shut out the Business of the Irish nation from those tribunals of reform. He (Mr. Sexton) should have thought that the fact of the Business being non-contentious was the strongest argument that could be used for sending it to the Standing Committees. They were told that the Standing Committees would discuss Bills relating to law, justice, and manufactures. Well, he did not expect that any Bill relating to law and justice for Ireland would need to be referred to the Standing Committees in his time; and, with regard to manufactures, the British Government took care long ago that Ireland should have no manufactures that would give any trouble. The manufactures now existing were hardly worth talking of. Therefore, he concluded that the Prime Minister, in limiting the Business to be referred to the Standing Committees, had taken care that no Irish interest should ever be considered by them. He (Mr. Sexton) claimed that if any Bills deserved, at the Committee stage, to be considered frankly and fairly, the Irish Bills were Bills of that description. In proof

Mr. Sexton

of that he would refer to what took place in the last Parliament, when 100 Bills dealing with various matters of importance to Ireland were introduced into Parliament and discussed. What was the usual fate of an Irish Bill in the Committee stage? It was that a solitary Minister, who might be asleep or awake, as it suited his fancy, would remain in attendance, while the Irish Members discussed the measure. The Minister chose to reply, but never said anything further. Any Englishman who liked could get up and talk as long as he pleased, showing that, even in his ignorance of the subject which he was discussing, he could not divest himself of his partiality. They would not object to the presence of English or Scotch Members on the Committee, though he contended that only Irishmen—whether Tories, Liberals, or followers of the hon. Member for the City of Cork he cared not—were qualified to act on a Committee of this character. At a time like the present, when the affairs of Ireland were so critical, and when everyone regarded the future of that country with fear and apprehension, it was something as bad as folly to refuse so reasonable and just a demand as was contained in this Amendment, as the refusal would put a weapon into the hand of violence.

Mr. BIGGAR said, he held that all the New Rules of the Prime Minister were fated to follow the example of his famous No. 2, which they were agreed had already broken down. The Rules of the Government would be far more effective, and would mitigate the complaint that had been made that the House had not done its work, if they could only condescend to meet Amendments in a more reasonable manner. They now tried to excuse their mismanagement by passing these Rules, although it was well known that there had been no Obstruction whatever during the present Parliament. But it suited the Government to allege that their own waste of time and neglect of the Business of the House was due to others. The Amendment was one which would commend itself to the House. At the same time, he did not think it was likely to be accepted by those sitting on the Ministerial side of the House, for those Gentlemen, he knew, would sacrifice their convictions to carry out the behests of the Party to which they

owed allegiance. Even on the ground of saving public time, such an Amendment as this, if carried to a practical result, would be very effective. They knew that a very large proportion of the time of the House was wasted by Motions being brought forward time after time and year after year in favour of reforms contended for by certain sections of the House. Yet, although the Government admitted the principles of those reforms, they declined to undertake the task of putting them into operation. Such Bills should, in his opinion, go to the Committee stage, and then be referred to the Standing Committees; and by that means there was little doubt the Bills would soon pass into law, and the time now wasted in endless discussion be saved. Again, in regard to Irish measures, a great deal of time was wasted in consequence of English and Scotch Members, who were utterly ignorant of the subject, rising in their places and talking. He saw no reason why the Government should not accept the Amendment. The Irish Members who were led by the hon. Member for the City of Cork would not even object to other Irish Members holding different political views taking part in the Committee. On that, as well as other grounds, he would vote in favour of the Amendment.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 22; Noes 94: Majority 72.—(Div. List, No. 402.)

Mr. GORST said, he begged to move an Amendment providing that the proposed Grand Committees should be appointed by Resolution of the House at the beginning of each Session. The Amendment was intended to fill up two serious gaps in the Government Resolution, which was entirely silent as to the method and the time of the appointment of the Committees. To constitute these Committees by Resolution of the House would imbue them with a sense of responsibility which they could not otherwise have; and they would be of no use unless they were appointed at the commencement of a Session. The Amendment was supported by the analogous course adopted in the appointment of the Committee on Public Accounts. His proposal, as it stood on the Paper, was that the appointment should be made "by Resolution of the House at the

commencement of each Session;" but, for the convenience of the Prime Minister, he moved the first part of the proposal separately.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, after the word "appointed," to insert the words "by Resolution of the House."—(Mr. Gorst.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Mr. GLADSTONE said, he was glad that the hon. and learned Member had separated the two parts of the Amendment, because to the second part he would make no objection at the proper time and place. But as to the first part, the hon. and learned Member overlooked the fact that what they were now doing was appointing these Committees by Resolution of the House.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, the advantage of adopting the Amendment would be that it would obviate the necessity for the 5th Resolution, making these Rules Standing Orders until the end of the next Session of Parliament. He was not aware of any precedent for such a course, and if the Amendment were carried the question would come on at the beginning of the Session in a full House; while, if the matter were brought on at the end of a Session, it would be easy for the Government to snatch an ill-considered decision. He hoped the Amendment would be pressed to a division.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 31; Noes 97: Majority 66.—(Div. List, No. 403.)

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, after the word "appointed," to insert the words "at the commencement of each Session."—(Mr. Gorst.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Mr. GORST moved the omission, in line 1 of the Resolution, of the word "all" before the word "Bills." The hon. and learned Gentleman said that, as the Resolution stood, the House would be bound to refer to the Standing Committees all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures. He thought

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the object of the House was to refer only such Bills as it should be decided to send to these Committees.

Amendment proposed, in line 1, to leave out the word "all."—(*Mr. Gorst.*)

Question proposed, "That the word 'all' stand part of the Question."

MR. GLADSTONE said, he could not agree to this Amendment, because the hon. and learned Member was quite wrong in thinking that the Resolution bound the House to commit all Bills of a certain class to a Standing Committee. The word "all" must be taken in conjunction with the words immediately following it—namely,

"Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may be committed to them respectively."

In every case there must be a vote of the House to determine that a Bill should be referred; and although, no doubt, the merits of the Bill could not then be discussed, yet the House could discuss whether it belonged to a particular class; and, if so, it could be committed to a Standing Committee. Therefore, the word "all" was a perfectly innocuous word, and he could not assent to its excision. He was of opinion that if there were a disposition to raise every point on those Resolutions that could possibly be raised by the ingenuity of hon. Members, undoubtedly it would be in their power to occupy the time of the House for a very long period. They had been told sometimes that they were to sit there till Christmas, and sometimes that they were to sit till after Christmas. His own opinion was that if that happened the country would pass rather a summary judgment on their proceedings, and would say that the standard of wisdom was low in an Assembly which spent so many weeks of its time in considering every minute particular of a Resolution that was avowedly experimental, and that might be altered in the next Session, and that was to be enacted only for the next Session. He looked forward to that with very small satisfaction. It would be a very small satisfaction to him if they were to go to the constituencies, saying it was all the fault of the Opposition, and the Opposition in turn saying it was all the fault of the Government. It appeared to him that the real dictate of common sense was

Mr. Gorst

that they should wish to avoid that censure which he thought would be passed upon them pretty smartly, and, he rather thought, justly, in the contingency he had contemplated, and those who wished to avoid the mischief should do everything in their power to avoid it. All that it was in the power of the Government to do for that end was to say that they were content to take these Resolutions in any form that would do two things—namely, leave them matter enough to make a real experiment upon, and also settle that matter now. To hand it over to the next Session was a thing, in their view, that was totally impossible. But they were most willing to do all in their power to avoid that ridiculous and mischievous consummation—a wasteful expenditure of time. Therefore, it should be understood clearly that there were two things which were requisite. They should secure that the handling of several Bills which they might have in their minds, and which the Government hoped to bring in next Session, and which were altogether suitable to be so handled, should be committed to that machinery. [An hon. MEMBER: Name the Bills.] He would name them when they had advanced so far in the discussion as to give them courage to go on with them. They were Bills strictly relating to law and trade, and were what the hon. Member for the City of Cork (Mr. Parnell) described as uncontentious subjects. He should be perfectly ready to name them at the proper time. But there was another thing that they ought to do. They could not justly rest satisfied with considering only what was necessary for the purposes of the Government. They ought to leave matters in such a state that, if there were Bills of private Members which the House might think fit to have referred to those Standing Committees, they might, under the Resolution, be so referred. He had reduced the demands of the Government, he hoped, within the real bounds of moderation. Whether they were accepted or not, it would be remembered that they had asked for a minimum; that they wished to take the Resolution for next Session, and for certain subjects which had been perfectly well described by the hon. Member for the City of Cork as uncontentious subjects, and that they desired to do what was fair to private

Members. He had thought it right to say these few words in the common interest on the occasion of the Amendment of the hon. and learned Member.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he had an Amendment on the Paper practically to the same effect as that of the hon. and learned Member for Chatham. It was not clear from the Resolution as it stood that the House would have the opportunity of referring such Bills as it chose to those Committees. He was glad that the right hon. Gentleman had explained that that was, indeed, the intention of the Government; but their plan, as it stood on the Paper, did not carry out that intention, and words ought to be introduced which would make the matter perfectly clear and unmistakable. The 4th Resolution said—

"That all Bills comprised in each of the said classes shall be Committed to one of the said Standing Committees, unless the House shall otherwise order."

According to that he should have thought that those Bills would have gone up under the Resolution to a Standing Committee without anything being said about it; and he was convinced that that, in the opinion of a large number of Members, was the effect of the Resolution as it stood. Unless the House had come to a decision to the contrary, any Bills belonging to a particular class would, under the proposals of the Government, naturally go up to one of those Committees. If both sides of the House were agreed, what was the objection of the Government to putting in some words to make their intention absolutely clear? Several ways of doing so had been suggested. His right hon. and learned Friend the Member for the University of Dublin (Mr. Gibson) proposed to substitute for "all" the word "such," or the Resolution might run in this way, "in all such Bills as the House should think fit on Motion made in each case." There really could be no reason why this should not be done, and the right hon. Gentleman would in this way carry out his own intention. Granted that the House was determined to treat these Resolutions as an experiment, he should like to call attention to the speech of the right hon. Member for Ripon (Mr. Goschen), complaining that they would want a great deal of working up. It was not the fault of the Opposition that there was delay. They had pre-

sented to them a skeleton of the whole plan; and they were attempting, as they were invited by the Prime Minister, by their Amendments to work out a practical scheme. If they passed these Resolutions *en bloc* without Amendment, they might try the experiment; but he was quite sure it would fail. He regretted, also, that the Prime Minister refused to mention the Bills he intended to submit to the Committees, for the House would then be able to make much speedier progress if it knew what legislation the Government contemplated.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, he did not agree in thinking that the Amendment proposed would effect the object desired. By striking out the word "all" a discretion would be placed in the hands of the Committee which it was desirable should be, and, indeed, was directed by the 4th Resolution to be, retained in the discretion of the House. The real question to be determined was, how should they have these Bills committed? That Resolution did not determine the process by which they were to go to the Committee; but it was the intention of the Government that they should be sent there by express action in each case. The proper place for the discussion and determination of that point was the 4th Resolution, which provided machinery for the purpose required; and when they arrived at that the Government could, if necessary, make their intentions still clearer.

MR. RAIKES commended the discussion they had just witnessed to the attention of the House as what was likely to occur under the Rules they were now considering. The Amendment was to leave out the word "all;" but they were told that the question raised by the Amendment was dealt with by the 4th Resolution. It was with the object of saving time that they raised the question then; and if the words were considered now, instead of being spread over an indefinite number of Resolutions, they would be better enabled to come to a conclusion on the question. A very simple Amendment, such as the insertion of the words "by special Resolution" would declare what was in the mind of the Government. He hoped that the Government would make it perfectly clear that the express vote of the House was to be necessary before any

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Bill was intrusted to the Committee, and would do so at once, so that Members might have some chance of enjoying their Christmas Recess at no distant date.

MR. GIBSON said, he entirely agreed with the Prime Minister that the meaning of the Resolution was tolerably plain; but they were dealing with an entirely new Procedure, and must not tolerate ambiguities. The Prime Minister desired to retain the word "all." He would wish to qualify it by the addition of the word "such."

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, that the speech of the right hon. Member for the University of Cambridge (Mr. Raikes) made it the more necessary that the Government should resist the rejection of the word "all." The right hon. Gentleman wished not only to remove from the Resolution any general direction that all Bills of a particular character should be taken, but also that there should be "a special Resolution" of the House in each case, so that when a Bill had been read a second time it should be debated over again whether it was to be referred to a Grand Committee or to a Select Committee. The Government desired that Bills of this kind should, as a rule, be relegated to these Grand Committees; but if the House desired to commit the Bill to a Committee of the Whole House it might do so. If any special direction was necessary it would be properly inserted in the 4th Resolution. He doubted very much whether any direction was required, and on that point they might have the opinion of the Speaker. They were not making any change in the proceedings of the House. All they were doing was to propose to substitute one kind of Committee for one of two others—a Select Committee or a Committee of the Whole House. But no Bill was committed to any Committee without a vote of the House.

SIR HARDINGE GIFFARD said, that the explanation of the noble Marquess made him extremely doubtful whether he understood the Prime Minister rightly, that it was not intended by these Rules that any Bills supposed to be stamped with this character of law or trade should forthwith go automatically to a Committee upstairs; but that in each case the House should have an opportunity of expressing its judgment

Mr. Raikes

whether it was one of the character which should be sent up. If that were so, he had an Amendment lower down, that it should be "upon Motion made." But, if he understood the noble Marquess, there was to be a general expression in the Rule that the Bills were to go upstairs.

MR. GLADSTONE said, that the Government wished the House to declare its general sense, but that the application in every case must be subjected to a vote of the House. With a view to the infirmity of the House, he would propose to insert in the latter part of this Resolution, after "which may," the words "by vote of the House," so as to read "which may, by vote of the House, be committed to them."

MR. HORST said, that, after the announcement of the Prime Minister, he would withdraw his Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

In answer to Mr. GLADSTONE,

MR. SPEAKER said, that the words "by order of the House" would be more usual than "by vote of the House."

MR. SCLATER-BOOTH rose to move to leave out "relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures." He did so because he believed the best course would be to leave the Committee of Selection free, and because he did not think the Grand Committee should consist of specialists, but of Members representing the fair average qualities of the House. The direction in the Resolution might make it difficult for the Committee of Selection to act. They might have a difficulty in determining whether a Bankruptcy Bill should be committed to a Committee on Trade or on Law. That was one of the difficulties, and it would be got rid of by the acceptance of the Amendment. If, however, the Government would consent to strike out the word "respectively" at the end of the Resolution, he thought the object would be equally well attained, as in that case Bills could be sent to either Committee by order of the House.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, to leave out the words "relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures."—(*Mr. Sclater-Booth*.)

Question proposed, "That the word 'relating' stand part of the Question."

MR. GLADSTONE said, he would abstain from entering upon the subject of the personal constitution of the Committees. That had been already fully dealt with by his right hon. and hon. Friends the Members for Ripon (Mr. Goschen) and Bedford (Mr. Whitbread). He saw no reason for the retention of the word "respectively;" but it was necessary to retain the general words in order to fulfil the pledge given to the House that nothing but non-contentious Business should be referred to these Committees.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. GORST moved to leave out the words "Law and Courts of Justice," in order to insert the words "legal procedure," his object being to improve the definition of the matters to be referred to the Committees.

Amendment proposed,

"In line 2, to leave out the words "Law and Courts of Justice," and insert the words "legal procedure,"—(Mr. Gorst.)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) admitted it would be difficult, if not impossible, to give an exact definition of what was meant by a Bill relating to law, because, in a sense, every Bill related to law; but, nevertheless, they all understood what was meant by the expression. The words were, in fact, taken from the Resolution which established the Grand Committees which at one period existed: It would be for the House to determine, when each Bill came before it, whether it should be sent to a Standing Committee; but he objected altogether to limiting the Rule to Bills of legal procedure. It seemed to him that the Criminal Code Bill was one of the Bills which might be sent to such a Committee. The term "legal procedure" would confine the reference to purely technical questions, such as pleadings and practice. He did not think the House would leave such questions to a Grand Committee. Under the term "Courts of Justice" would come such a question as whether the offices of Lord Chief Baron and Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas should continue to exist.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, he thought the hon. and learned Gentleman's reference to the Criminal Code Bill was rather rash. The Criminal Code Bill included such questions as the Law of Treason and Conspiracy; the new offence of "Boycotting," capital punishment, contempt of Court—some of which were thoroughly Party questions, and thus the Attorney General's statement was in direct conflict with what the Prime Minister had said; for the right hon. Gentleman stated that no Party questions would be referred. Such questions would be removed by the Amendment of his hon. and learned Friend. Would the Law of Libel also be referred to those Committees? The Attorney General had said that Bills would only be referred if the House wished it. But that only meant if the Government of the day wished it. All discussion was heresy and treason in the eyes of the Prime Minister. He had practically said—"Here are my propositions, and until you take them I will sit here till Christmas." When any Member of the Opposition dared to dissent he was assailed by groans from the Ministerial Benches, led by the Attorney General. Why were the discussions on those important questions not allowed to proceed? Were the Government tired? If they were, then let them prorogue, or use their *clôture*; and if they did not mean to do the one or the other, why should they suppress discussion on *bonâ fide* Amendments? The hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Norwood) had dwelt on the difficulty of defining whether, for example, a Bankruptcy Bill would be a law or a trade Bill. That question would be clearly met by the Amendment of his hon. and learned Friend.

MR. GLADSTONE said, with reference to the noble Lord's assertion that he had stated that the House might either take the Rules or leave them, he stated in distinct terms that all the Government wanted was the minimum, and that the Resolutions would, in their opinion, greatly accelerate the Business of the House. He did not say this for the satisfaction of the noble Lord; it was no use trying to satisfy him. He said it for the information of any Gentleman who might have been previously absent. With regard to the Amendment, it was impossible to decide by a

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sharp line beforehand what Bills were and what were not to be referred to these Committees. He agreed with the noble Lord that the five subjects he mentioned were Party questions. Whether a particular Bill was to be referred to the Committee or not was a fair question to be considered when the Bill was introduced, and on a Motion by the Government to refer it to the Committee. He was at a loss to understand what the hon. and learned Member (Mr. Gorst) meant by Bills for "legal procedure." [Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: A Bankruptcy Bill.] The noble Lord actually called a Bankruptcy Bill a Bill for legal procedure! The answer was preposterous. No doubt the Amendment would eliminate all Party questions from the consideration of Committees; but it would also eliminate all other Bills, and for that reason the Government had no alternative but to oppose it.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS suggested that measures of a non-contentious character might be referred next Session to the Committees by way of experiment.

MR. TOMLINSON said the House had been told that a class of Bills would be referred to the Grand Committee which would render the attendance of the Attorney General and Solicitor General indispensable. But how could those hon. and learned Gentlemen attend this Committee between the hours of 12 and 4? Then, as to the question whether a Bankruptcy Bill was to be referred to the Committee on Law or the Committee on Trade, that would depend upon the Member who introduced it. If introduced by the Attorney General it would be referred to the Committee on Law; but if introduced by the President of the Board of Trade, he, being a Member of the Cabinet, would have the power of classifying it, and he would certainly refer it to the Committee on Trade.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF wished to know how the right hon. Gentleman would define a Bankruptcy Bill—was it a law or a trade Bill? As the hon. Member for Preston (Mr. Tomlinson) had pointed out, which Members of the Government were to send Bills to these Committees, and were the Members of these Committees to be chosen by the Committee of Selection or not? The House should be informed what classes

of Bills were to be referred to these Committees, who were to be the Members of the Committees, and how they were to be selected.

MR. DODSON said, he thought the suggestion of the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire was one well worthy of consideration.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, after the conciliatory way in which the right hon. Gentleman had met the suggestion of his right hon. Friend the Member for South-West Lancashire, he thought the occasion was opportune for the Prime Minister to state, as he had promised to do, what Bills they meant to refer to these Committees.

MR. GLADSTONE said, the noble Lord had misunderstood him. What he said was that he should be willing to make such a statement with a view of shortening the debate on the Resolution; but he believed that such a statement was, under existing circumstances, unnecessary.

Question put.

The House divided:—Ayes 122; Noes 51: Majority 71.—(Div. List, No. 404.)

MR. GIBSON said, that the Resolution now read, "Law and Courts of Justice." He thought it would be better to go a little further, and add "legal procedure," because "law" was unquestionably a vague and wide word, open to doubt and uncertainty. He begged to move the insertion of the words "legal procedure."

Amendment proposed, in line 2, after the word "Justice," to insert the words "and legal procedure."—(Mr. Gibson.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted."

MR. GLADSTONE assented to the Amendment.

Question put, and agreed to.

Words inserted.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL believed that the Amendment which stood in his name upon the Paper would come next—namely, after "Justice," or, as the Resolution now stood, after "legal procedure," leave out "and to Trade, Shipping," and insert, "or of Agriculture, Commerce, or." He thought that the word "Commerce" would really cover "Trade and Shipping;" and it was also important that there should be some reference to Agriculture, because it

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might be desirable that such measures as Bills relating to questions of valuation should be referred to the Standing Committees. They would not come in under the head of Commerce; but there were Bills relating to Agriculture of a technical character, requiring expert knowledge, and such Bills might be referred to these Committees. If the word "Agriculture" were left out, it would be impossible to refer such measures. He would, therefore, move the Amendment; but if it was objected to he should not press it. He was decidedly of opinion that the word "Commerce" was an improvement on "Trade and Shipping," because it covered the two.

MR. O'DONNELL rose to a point of Order. He thought that, as the words of the Resolution stood, an Amendment which he had placed upon the Paper came before that of the noble Lord, because it came in before the words "Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures," after the words "legal procedure." If the words "Trade and Shipping" were passed, there would be no place left for the insertion of his Amendment.

MR. SPEAKER ruled that the Amendment of the hon. Member came before that of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock.

MR. O'DONNELL said, his object in moving the Amendment was to give a proper interpretation to the very vague term "Law" which appeared in the first part of the Resolution. It was the distinct object of his Amendment to obtain some guarding and guaranteeing words which would prevent the Government of the day from referring to these Committees Bills which ought to be referred to a Committee of the Whole House; and for that purpose he wished to move to insert, after the words "legal procedure," the words—

"With the exception of Bills relating to Parliamentary and Municipal Franchise and Election; the Relief of the Poor; the Public Health; the Administration of County Government; the Apprehension, Trial, and Punishment of Accused Persons; the Law of Public Meeting and the Liberty of Unlicensed Printing; and Military Law."

He was of opinion that the subjects mentioned in his Amendment showed the serious peril the House and the country would run if the Resolution of the Government were allowed to pass as it stood. It was without any protective words whatever. For instance, a Bill

relating to the Law of Parliamentary and Municipal Franchise and Election was not a Bill which ought to be referred to a political Standing Committee; neither ought so large a measure as a Bill touching upon a social question such as the amendment of the present Law of the Relief of the Poor to be so dealt with. Issues of the very gravest character lay behind a Bill of that kind, and it was a Bill which ought to be strictly reserved for the consideration of the Whole House in Committee for detailed examination by every Member of the constituency, and not for the examination of a Select Committee composed of Members whom the Government of the day might choose to elevate to the dignity of sitting upon these Grand Committees. Then, again, Bills relating to the Public Health must be quite as important as Bills relating to the Relief of the Poor; also Bills relating to the Administration of County Government, especially when it was borne in mind that they were promised shortly a complete measure of County Government. The Government certainly ought to take some precautions to provide that a measure of that kind should not be submitted to the comparatively hole-and-corner scrutiny of a Select Committee. Then, again, he proposed to exclude Bills relating to the alteration of the law concerning the apprehension, trial, and punishment of accused persons. Measures of that character ought certainly to be reserved for the consideration of the House of Commons in its largest acceptance and its fullest sense, because on one day the liberties of a popular class in Ireland might be affected, and on another day the liberties of an unpopular class in England might be affected. A measure proposing to alter the laws relating to the apprehension, trial, and punishment of accused persons ought not to be subjected to the supervision of the anonymous bodies now proposed. For instance, under the term "apprehension" there might be a Bill introduced for extending the provisions of the measure which had already been passed to enable the police to arrest persons on mere suspicion only. He would remind the House that although Coercion Bills were at present, or at least had been under Liberal auspices, exclusively reserved for Ireland, there had been a time when Coercion Bills had been largely applied to England; and although

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at present Ireland possessed a monopoly of that species of Algerine legislation, there were, only some 60 years ago, six Algerine Acts passed which affected the liberties of British subjects, and the British Government might easily be induced to bring in an Algerine Act again. But if such a Bill were brought in again, he contended that the House ought to have a distinct guarantee that such an attack upon the liberties of the subject should be at least open to the same opportunity of criticism as those which had been in force for so many hundreds of years for the protection of the House and of the people. In the great change which it was proposed to make there were some subjects which ought to be regarded as somewhat too strict for the haphazard experiment even of so distinguished a statesman as the Prime Minister. The Amendment pointed out the general character of the measures which he thought ought to be excluded from the manipulation of these General Committees. An agrarian disturbance in Scotland—and he believed there was one taking place there at this moment—might rise to such a height that the Ministry might think it incumbent upon them to bring in a Bill for putting down public meetings in Scotland. In such a case he contended that, even if it were a Bill merely for the purpose of putting down for three years all public meetings in Ireland, such Bills ought to be brought in and discussed in a Committee of the Whole House. It was unnecessary to do more than allude to the important questions that were raised in the reform of Military Law in the last Parliament, in order to show how essential it was to withdraw Military Law from the scheme of these Grand Committees. He would ask the Radical Members opposite only to imagine what would have been the result of all the efforts they had made during the last Parliament to strike out the flogging provisions from the Military Bills then introduced, if, instead of a Committee of the Whole House, they had had nothing but a Grand Committee, selected by the late Administration. It would probably be said that a Select Committee would have been selected just as fairly under the late Government as under the present; but, however fairly such a Committee might be selected, he contended that great measures dealing with the United Kingdom at large ought to be reserved for consideration and discussion in a full Committee of the Whole House of Commons. It was quite fair for the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain), or the Secretary of State for India (the Marquess of Hartington), to carry on their Obstruction in the last Parliament. ["Oh!"] No doubt Obstruction was a villainous word, and he perceived that it did not smell sweet to Members on the Treasury Bench; but it would have been absolutely impossible for the right hon. Gentlemen on the Treasury Bench to have carried on their dilatory warfare against the late Government if the Military Rules he had been referring to had been submitted to a Select Standing Committee sitting upstairs. In the first place, there would hardly have been any of that publication, which inspired their exertions a couple of years ago, at their disposal under present circumstances, nor would there have been 30 of the Opposition, of all kinds, included upon a Standing Committee, so that all the ordinary resources for delaying dangerous legislation, and providing opportunities for duo discussion, would have been entirely cut out if these Grand Committees had existed under the last Government; and the President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Chamberlain), the Home Secretary (Sir William Harcourt), and the Secretary of State for India (the Marquess of Hartington) would have been snuffed out just as ignominiously as the Irish Members if they had not been able to make their criticisms in a Committee of the Whole House. He (Mr. O'Donnell) had not yet been promoted to the Treasury Bench; and, therefore, he was not ashamed of the part he took in opposing the provisions of the Military Law on that occasion. But what he wished to urge was that many occasions might arise in future in which it would be of the utmost importance to preserve to the House in a full Committee an opportunity of discussing doggedly and obstinately the provisions of a measure that was considered hostile to the interests of the country at large. However, if Her Majesty's Government objected to the phraseology of his Amendment, and could suggest a form of words without going into the heads of legislation after the manner he had thought necessary in order to point out the gravity of the change—if any Member of the Ministerial Bench, or the House at large, would

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propose a form of words that would secure to the Committee of the Whole House a fair right to discuss important measures of a public character, he should not stand in the way of the adoption of an improved form, and would ask leave to withdraw his Amendment. However, for the purpose of obtaining something at this stage—and surely the House had reached far enough down in the consideration of the Rule to have something like a definite statement from the Government—he would, in order to afford an opportunity to the House for obtaining that definite statement, move the Amendment which he had placed upon the Paper.

Amendment proposed,

In line 2, at the end of the foregoing Amendment, to insert the words “with the exception of Bills relating to Parliamentary and Municipal Franchise and Election; the Relief of the Poor; the Public Health; the Administration of County Government; the Apprehension, Trial, and Punishment of Accused Persons; the Law of Public Meeting and the Liberty of Unlicensed Printing; and Military Law.”—(*Mr. O'Donnell.*)

Question proposed, “That those words be there inserted.”

MR. GLADSTONE said, he thought the hon. Member would be prepared for the statement that he could not undertake to accept the Amendment, although, perhaps, the hon. Member would not be prepared for the statement that his main reason for not accepting it was that it would defeat its own purpose. Its purpose was to exclude certain measures from the scope of the Resolution. That was totally unnecessary, because the terms of the Reference already excluded them; and, independently of that fact, this would manifestly be a case in which, by inserting the enumeration supplied by the hon. Gentleman, it would lead to the inference that all subjects not expressly excluded were to be referred, and the consequence might be that subjects of the very highest importance—for instance, such a question as the Disestablishment of the Church, or some other matter of that kind—might be referred to a Grand Committee.

MR. W. H. SMITH said, he hoped that the right hon. Gentleman would accede to the suggestion of his right hon. Friend the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), and introduce some words into the Resolution which would satisfy the House that

next Session, to which the Resolution only applied, the attention of these Committees would be confined to certain subjects. He understood the right hon. Gentleman to say that the Resolution would only be applied to non-contentious Bills, and that the great questions referred to in the Speech from the Throne, such as the Law of Bankruptcy, would not be sent to Grand Committees. If words to that effect were put into the Resolution, it would greatly facilitate the passing of the Resolution, and materially shorten the labours of the House.

MR. GORST said, he thought that the time for adopting the suggestion of the right hon. Gentleman had almost gone by. He understood, however, that it had been accepted by Her Majesty's Government in effect, and that an undertaking had been given to the House that words would be inserted later on, which would remove the vague and general character of the Resolution as it stood. He trusted that the Government would eliminate these general words, and insert the measures they really intended, next Session, to refer to the Standing Committees; but it would be better to do that by adding additional words or a Proviso. They could not now limit the general scope of the Resolution, because they had committed themselves to a general Resolution, and it was too late. They might, at the same time, give some indication of the particular measures it was intended to refer to Standing Committees; but they had gone so far now that the only safeguard of the House was in the words the right hon. Gentleman had promised to insert in the Resolution, to the effect that the House should have an opportunity on each occasion of determining whether a particular measure should be referred to a Standing Committee or not. Of course, it would never be contemplated to refer a Bill for the Disestablishment of the Church, upon which there would be a great amount of public feeling in the country, to a Standing Committee; but it was only minor measures that would be so referred. At the same time the majority of the right hon. Gentleman was so large that he might refer almost any Bill to a Grand Committee; and he (*Mr. Gorst*) did not know that the House would have any way of preventing it. All they could do was to reserve to themselves the right to full discussion on the Report.

MR. SCLATER-BOOTH understood the Prime Minister to say that he would only refer non-contentious Business to the Grand Committees; but it was very difficult to define what non-contentious Business was. For instance, the subject of Bankruptcy might be in the highest degree contentious; and it would be impossible to say what Bills were contentious or not before the House had had an opportunity of seeing the measures themselves. It would therefore be dangerous to insert the actual measures that were to be referred.

MR. WARTON said, he thought that, instead of saying that no Bill should be referred to a Standing Committee except certain specified classes of Bills, it would be better to insert a Proviso at the end of the Resolution. If the hon. Member for Dungarvan (Mr. O'Donnell) would withdraw his Amendment, Her Majesty's Government might bring up a Proviso providing that certain Bills should not be committed to such Grand Committees. Personally, he gathered that the great object of introducing these Resolutions was to enable the Government to pass a Bill next Session for the amendment of the Criminal Code.

LORD JOHN MANNERS agreed with his hon. and learned Friend the Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst) that the time had gone by for inserting these words in the first part of the Resolution; but that was not so in respect to the second, respecting trade and manufactures. He hoped the Prime Minister would now rise in his place and tell the House what Bills he proposed, next Session, to refer to Standing Committees. It was quite on the cards, if the House knew what they were, that their resistance to the Resolutions might be materially modified.

MR. O'DONNELL said, he would withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

SIR JOHN HAY, in the absence of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill), moved, in line 2, to leave out after "Justice," "and to Trade, Shipping," and insert "or of Agriculture, Commerce, or."

Amendment proposed,

In line 2, to leave out the words "and to Trade, Shipping," and insert the words "or of Agriculture, Commerce, or,"—(*Sir John Hay*),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words 'and to Trade, Shipping' stand part of the Question."

MR. GLADSTONE said, he was not going to complain of the Resolution; but he wished to observe that trade, shipping, and manufactures were terms well known in Acts of Parliament, and in relation to public proceedings. He doubted very much whether commerce and agriculture would be better terms; and he was afraid that if they introduced the question of agriculture they would be hardly able to keep to the declaration which had been made in regard to contentious measures. In the first place, the interest in agriculture was so widely and largely diffused throughout the House, that the House would hardly consent to allow any question that affected agriculture to go to a Standing Committee; and he was bound to say that he could not honestly declare that such a measure could pass under the title of a non-contentious Bill. Of course, non-contentious measures was a phrase popularly understood; but in this case agricultural questions could not be regarded as non-contentious Business; and he should, therefore, on that account, object to the introduction of the word "agriculture." As had been judiciously observed by the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst), it was not wise, after having agreed to general words, to introduce restrictive words into the Resolution at the tail end of it. He was now about to testify his confidence in the Opposition, and rely upon the future to justify that confidence. He and his Colleagues were anxious, if they could, to come to a friendly settlement of the matter, which they considered a most unnatural one to bring into the sphere of political controversy. There were no less than three hon. Members opposite, leading persons on that side of the House, who had invited him to make an enumeration of the measures the Government desired next Session to refer to these Standing Committees. Of course, they would take that enumeration for what it was worth; and the enumeration might rest partly, as had been well said by the right hon. Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), on a statement which might hereafter be made in the Queen's Speech. He was, however, ready to say what the is-

tentions of the Government were, and they were not very different from what had been communicated by the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton), who, however, could hardly expect that he could act as pilot balloon in regard to any statement the Government had to submit to the House. The hon. and learned Gentleman had suggested that it would be a natural course to refer a Bill called the Criminal Code Indictable Offences Bill to one of these Standing Committees. That Bill was honourably associated, in a great measure, with the name of a great and distinguished Judge, Sir John Holker, who, although a political opponent, and one who differed widely from him (Mr. Gladstone) in his views, had earned his respect for his manly character, and admiration for his remarkable legal acumen and closeness of argument. That Bill he would venture to submit might, without a fear of irritating anyone, become a proper subject, under certain conditions and reservations, which he would refer to by-and-bye, for reference to a Grand Committee. It was a Bill which he believed and understood would involve such a mass of non-contentious manipulation as to make it extremely difficult to handle it in the House. On the other hand, although he did not agree with the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) that all the points he had enumerated were points of Party contention, still he was prepared to give up the point that points of serious contention, whether Party or not, might not arise. Therefore, he said that while the Government hoped to make a general reference of Bills of this nature to the Grand Committees, yet he coupled with the proposition the distinct assurance that when a Bill of this nature had gone through Committee, and when the settlement arrived at had been made known, and there was a serious desire on the part of persons entitled to consideration that certain portions of that measure should be reconsidered, that those portions of the Bill should be re-committed. Of course, he meant re-committal to a Committee of the Whole House. Then, with respect to other Bills, undoubtedly the subject of Bankruptcy, and the subject of Patents, which were the two main subjects, they were also laborious subjects; but, on the whole, they would certainly fall within

the description of non-contentious matter. Now, this was the whole breadth of the purpose the Government had in view; and, as he had said, he did not think it was for the Government to lay down any absolute rule as to what the House might be entitled to do in regard to the Bills of private Members. That was a subject which might fairly and impartially be raised when the proper time arrived. He was willing to believe, relying as he did on the declaration which had been made, that by an announcement of this sort, showing the really limited purpose of the Government, he might greatly conciliate the jealousy and apprehension which had been expressed on the other side of the House, and facilitate the progress of the Resolutions. He had given this explanation to the House with perfect frankness, and he hoped the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock would understand its purport and withdraw the Amendment.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL asked the leave of the House to withdraw the Amendment.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR asked whether there would be power under the Resolution to re-commit Bills? He thanked the right hon. Gentleman for his frank explanation, and thought that the House had reason to congratulate the right hon. Gentleman on the generous and fair spirit in which he offered to meet them. At the same time, as an Irish Member, he felt entitled to complain of the omission of any reference to Bills relating to Ireland.

MR. GLADSTONE said, there could be no doubt there was such a power as the hon. Member referred to.

MR. BIDDELL: I much regret that this difficult subject of self-reform should have become a Party one, for the revision of its Rules is one beyond any other which the House should impartially consider regardless of Party. This unfortunate result has, I believe, arisen from the unconciliatory course adopted by the Government, which, after consenting in the first instance to the views of the Opposition, afterwards withdrew such consent, thereby giving rise to much friction and opposition on this side of the House. The great question is—Is reform needed? I have no doubt of this. No one can contend that real business in the last few years has progressed as it should. The country is impatient at what a great departed man

would call our verbosity. My own constituents are constantly putting the question to me—"When will you get to business?" The liberty of speech has been abused, and must be curtailed; indeed, we can now only expect to preserve our liberties by restricting them. Our old Rules are inefficient to meet the evil; must we not then revise them? With this view the Government has proposed, by aid of a majority, to cut short debate. What will be the effect of this? Why, the great men of the House will have their "say," and it will be practically told to Members of small fame—"You must not further prolong the debate by speaking." Well, if such a course is to be pursued with us, I should prefer to read the speeches of others, and record my views by proxy voting as in the other House. I contend there is another and more preferable course, and which we should adopt—namely, acting on the offender by limiting the duration of a speech—whether to 10, 15, or 20 minutes I will not stop to discuss. Of course, there would have to be exceptions. We should all regret to have a speech like that of the hon. Member for Newcastle, which we heard with so much pleasure the other night, abruptly terminated. I would, therefore, give you, Sir, the power of relaxing the Rule in such cases—when the Member was evidently obtaining the attention of the House. Such a Rule would have the great recommendation of being self-acting. Let us do what we can to encourage short speeches, which are evidently in favour with the House, or why do so many Members commence by promising to speak for only a few minutes?—a promise, by the bye, very frequently not adhered to. I must say I should much less dislike the Government proposition if, after the Speaker had the result of the division before him, he then had the option of deciding whether the debate should be terminated, for it might be what he thought was "the evident sense" of the House was only that of a bare majority. I have thus spoken to avoid the misconception that all those who vote against the Government proposition are against any restriction on debate.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. GIBSON said, he thought the Prime Minister's statement had covered

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the Resolution down to the word "manufactures," in line 3. He (Mr. Gibson) proposed, after the word "may," to insert the words "by order of the House in each case."

Amendment *agreed to*.

MR. GLADSTONE moved to amend the Resolution by omitting, in line 3, the word "respectively."

Question, "That the word 'respectively' stand part of the Resolution, put, and *negatived*."

MR. GLADSTONE said, they had now arrived at a point when it became his duty to move the Proviso he had already referred to, and which had already been stated to the House. It was a very simple one, and would have the effect of entirely removing the Committees from the operation of the Rule of July 21st, 1856, and of disabling them, except by permission of the House, from sitting on Wednesdays and during Morning Sittings of the House. The Proviso would run thus—

"That the said Committees shall be excluded from the operations on the Standing Order of July 21st, 1856."

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, he rose to Order. He thought the Amendment which he had placed upon the Paper came before that of the right hon. Gentleman—namely, to add to the Resolution the following words:—

"And the procedure in the said Committees shall be, so far as circumstances admit, the same as the procedure in a Committee of the Whole House, and all rules and customs pertaining to a Committee of the whole House shall be observed in the said Committees, except in so far that the Chairman of the said Committees shall not be deemed to possess any of the powers specially conferred on the Chairman of Ways and Means by any of the Resolutions relating to the Business of the House agreed to in this Session of Parliament."

MR. SPEAKER ruled that the Amendment of the noble Lord would come before the Proviso proposed to be inserted by the Prime Minister.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, that it was quite clear that the procedure of these large Committees could not possibly be analogous to the procedure in Select Committees. A Select Committee was perfectly informal. There was nothing formal about it; the Members of a Select Committee did not rise in their places; even the Chairman never rose in his place; and the proceedings altogether were of a

most informal character. That might be agreeable to the small knot of men who conducted these Committees; but it would not be suitable to a large body of men who were to sit as a kind of Parliament in miniature. Therefore, although the expression had been used by the Government once or twice that these Committees were like Select Committees, it would not do to allow their procedure to be analogous to the procedure of Select Committees, but rather to that of a Committee of the Whole House. For instance, it might be necessary to make a special provision in regard to the taking of the Votes. It would not be possible for the Members of a Committee to go into the Lobby; but there should, at the same time, be a formal mode of dividing the Committee. Then it was quite clear that, in reference to keeping order in the Committee, the Chairman ought to have very much the same power as he had in a Committee of the Whole House. He ought to be able to raise points of Order and to decide them with much more authority than the Chairman of a Select Committee. In the Amendment he proposed to exclude from the powers conferred upon the Chairman the powers specially conferred on the Chairman of Ways and Means by the Business Resolutions.

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words "and the procedure in the said Committee shall be, so far as circumstances admit, the same as the procedure in a Committee of the whole House, and all rules and customs pertaining to a Committee of the whole House shall be observed in the said Committees, except in so far that the Chairman of the said Committees shall not be deemed to possess any of the powers specially conferred on the Chairman of Ways and Means by any of the Resolutions relating to the Business of the House agreed to in this Session of Parliament."—(*Lord Randolph Churchill.*)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

MR. GLADSTONE said, that the Government's view of the matter was that it would be impolitic and extremely cumbrous to attempt to provide beforehand for all the contingencies which might arise in the working of these Committees, and that it would be better to let them feel their own way. He laid that down as a general principle. Now, what did the noble Lord propose in his Amendment? He proposed that—

"All rules and customs pertaining to a Committee of the whole House shall be observed in

the said Committees, except in so far that the Chairman of the said Committees shall not be deemed to possess any of the powers specially conferred on the Chairman of Ways and Means by any of the Resolutions relating to the Business of the House agreed to in this Session of Parliament."

The Resolutions recently passed did confer certain powers upon the Chairman of Committees, and the Government did not wish to add to any of those powers at all; but in order to keep the Chairman of Committees entirely out of the scope of the Resolutions recently adopted, it was evident they must adopt for their general basis the Rules which now governed Select Committees, and not those governing Committees of the Whole House. He thought the noble Lord would find there were many occasions on which the Forms of the Committee of the Whole House would be quite unsuited to the Standing Committees. For example, a Committee of the Whole House reported Progress from time to time and, Motions were made to report Progress; but these were Forms which need not be introduced into the Standing Committees. What the Government proposed was to put one Proviso in the hands of the Speaker to secure a stated time for theittings of the Committees; but they thought the House should declare upon the general principle of the Committees. He agreed with what was said by the right hon. Member for the University of Cambridge (Mr. Raikes) that the Committees should have power to dismiss strangers if they thought fit—indeed, as to general procedure, what the Government proposed was that the procedure of such Committees should be the same as that in Select Committees, unless the House should otherwise order. It would be then that the Standing Committees would make their applications to the House. There was one thing which ought to be brought to the minds of Members of the House. Select Committees had of late years embodied an extremely small number of Members—a Select Committee was essentially a body of extremely small number. A Select Committee was considered a large one if it had 17 Members; and he thought that in no case did it ever go beyond 21 Members. But he had voted in a Select Committee where he had been one of a majority exceeding 70, there being a respectable number on the other side. Such was the elasticity

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of Select Committees some 40 years ago. The Select Committee to which he referred had under consideration a Railway Bill. The present intention of the Government was to take the moderate cases exercised in Select Committees, trusting to enlarge or modify them if experience should show that it became necessary. He had now stated the reason of their proceeding; and it was his intention, if he had the opportunity, to propose the addition of the words—

"And the procedure in such Committees shall be the same as in a Select Committee, unless the House shall otherwise order: Provided, That strangers shall be admitted, except when the Committee shall order them to withdraw: Provided also, That the said Committees shall be excluded from the operation of the Standing Order of July 21st 1856; and the said Committees shall not sit whilst the House is sitting without the order of the House."

SIR JOHN HAY asked in what way the voting was conducted in the Select Committee to which the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had referred?

MR. GLADSTONE said, that, according to his recollection, the Members of the Committee voted in the same way in which they voted in the House itself—namely, by going to different sides of the room.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he had served on a great number of Committees of all kinds, and he was obliged to say his inclination was certainly in favour of these Standing Committees being made more like Select Committees than Committees of the Whole House. In the first place—especially when they had got a Bill before them—it was extremely advantageous to have a long discussion before going formally through the clauses, because in this way they gathered a great number of views before going through the Bill clause by clause. Furthermore, it very often was necessary to have the draftsman at their elbow, because nothing could more conduce to the proper settling of a Bill than having the draftsman present to explain the clauses, to show how the clauses were entwined one with another, how any particular Amendment that might be proposed would interfere with the general structure of the Bill, or be quite discordant with the general intentions of the Bill. It was of the greatest possible assistance to Members of the Committee to have the draftsman with them; and, therefore, for that reason

alone, he thought the Forms of the House would be cumbrous and unsuitable. There was one other matter with regard to these Committees which he might mention, and that was that they found in Select Committees hon. Members did not always sit like Parties in the House did—one Party on one side of the room and the other Party on the other side; they very often got mixed up, and very frequently with advantage, for any idea of one side getting an advantage over the other was destroyed. If there was to be any advantage in these great Committees, such a state of things would be a very large one. Upon the whole, he was bound to say his opinion was in favour of the adoption of the Rules of Select Committees, rather than those of Committees of the Whole House.

MR. GORST said, he hoped this Amendment would show the Prime Minister the value of the criticism of the Resolutions which had been made by the noble Lord (Lord Randolph Churchill). He (Mr. Gorst) must admit that, whether this proposal was right or wrong, it was necessary some proposal of the kind should be made, in order that there should be some indication to the Committee as to the Rules and customs to be observed in the Standing Committees. In a matter of this kind one would naturally prefer the superior experience and the greater knowledge of the Prime Minister. Certainly, he (Mr. Gorst) would hardly have thought it possible for a Select Committee of 70 Members to have done its work satisfactorily; but if the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had had that experience, and if he thought that the Business could be properly performed according to the customs and Rules of a Select Committee, then he (Mr. Gorst) had no doubt his noble Friend would withdraw his Amendment in order to make way for that suggested by the Prime Minister.

MR. NORWOOD said, he had listened very carefully to the statement of the Prime Minister, and also to that of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South-West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross; and, of course, he felt very considerable diffidence in differing in opinion from Gentlemen of such large experience as those right hon. Gentlemen. He wished, however, before they came to an absolute decision upon this matter, to point out that these Standing

Mr. Gladstone

Committees were really intended to be substitutes of the Committees of the entire House, and they were to be legislative Committees—they were, in point of fact, substitutions of the hitherto most important stages of the measures which had come before the House. Up to this time the Committees on Bills had been subjected to the publicity which attended the proceedings in the House. They had hitherto been held in the presence of the Press and of the public, and hon. Members had had the assistance of the Clerks at the Table, and of all the machinery provided for the transaction of the Business of the country. Now, the suggestion that, in regard to the new Standing Committees, the Forms and Rules applicable to Select Committees should be adopted, appeared to him to be open to some objection. He thought that if they were to relegate the important stage of Committee on a Bill, which they had up to this taken in the House itself, to a Committee upstairs, they should be assured that the same amount of publicity would be given to the proceedings which was now given to them. Their proceedings were now reported, their divisions were printed on the Books, the Amendments that it was desired should be discussed were handed in to the Clerk at the Table, and printed and taken in proper order. The proceedings in Select Committees were very often of an extremely formal character, and it very often depended upon the Chairman whether the proceedings of a Select Committee were regular or not. He had served on Select Committees, the Chairman of which had permitted certain Members to speak a dozen times and others not at all. There had been no care taken that important Amendments should be circulated; Business generally had been conducted by what he might call the rule of thumb and measure; and he greatly feared the result of the Rules of Procedure observed in Select Committees were adopted in the Standing Committees. As he had previously said, he felt great diffidence in urging his views in opposition to the two right hon. Gentlemen who had just preceded him. The Prime Minister's opinion must have very great weight upon Members of his (Mr. Norwood's) position in the House; but he did venture once more to say that they ought to pause before they adopted for the Standing Committees the Rules which

now obtained in Select Committees. The principle of a measure might be settled on the second reading, and the speeches made at this stage were, as a rule, made more to the country than to the House; but the details of a measure were determined in Committee. It would be a very dangerous thing if they were, in any form or way, to depart from the solemnity and publicity and the care with which the Business of Committee was transacted in the House of Commons. He should very much regret, indeed, if Bills were to be sent upstairs and discussed in a mere conversational manner; for who could report a conversation? He hoped, as he presumed it would be, the proposal of the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister would be accepted in its broadest sense, and that in the Standing Committees some attention would be paid to fixed rule; that there would be some uniformity of practice observed in the new Committees; that they would not find the Chairman of the legal Committee adopting one form of procedure, and the Chairman of the second Committee adopting another form. He would suggest to the Prime Minister whether it would not be well, at the commencement of next Session, to frame Rules for the guidance of the Committees. Definite Rules ought to be observed in the proceedings of the new Committees; and it was also of the greatest importance that the Committees should be open to the Press and to the public.

Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH said, the result of his experience was that the procedure of Select Committees was not satisfactory in very large Committees. The proceedings of Select Committees were extremely useful when the Committee numbered 9 or 11 Members; but when the Committee was composed of as many as 25 Members the proceedings resolved themselves into a conversation, and he was afraid that would be so in this case.

Mr. BRYCE said, that, as the presence of the draftsman of the Bill in the Committee had been referred to by the right hon. Gentleman the Member for South - West Lancashire (Sir R. Assheton Cross), he (Mr. Bryce) would do no more than express the feeling of hon. Members on the Liberal side of the House that the matter did well deserve the attention of the Government. The presence of the draftsman was of very great value to a Committee; and, there-

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fore, he would suggest that it would be very useful if the Government were to provide a draftsman for each Committee, and if that official were to hold himself in readiness to attend a Committee at such time as the Committee might require him.

SIR WALTER B. BARTELOT said, it appeared to him that the House was hardly in a position to consider this very important question. He must thank his noble Friend (Lord Randolph Churchill) for bringing this matter prominently before the House, for there were very few people who had seriously considered the very grave issues that this question was about to raise. His hon. Friend the Member for Hull (Mr. Norwood) had spoken of the conduct of some Chairmen of Select Committees. There was no one who had sat on many Select Committees of that House who did not know the importance of having a good Chairman. He had sat on Select Committees the proceedings of which had been conducted in an absolutely disgraceful manner. He had known the greatest partiality shown by a Chairman to certain Members of a Committee; he had known that some men had been allowed to do things which would not be tolerated in anyone else. He had no hesitation in saying that, unless there were some strict Rules observed, the new Committees would be nothing less than a rabble doing business. It was absolutely necessary, if the Standing Committees were to be conducted on the principle of Select Committees, that some Rule should be drawn up before the new Committees commenced their sittings; for he ventured to say that, unless men spoke in proper turn, unless the Amendments were printed and placed in the Chairman's hands, the whole system would fail. He merely mentioned this because one had had the experience of Select Committees, and because one knew how, when there had been a good Chairman, and everything had been conducted "decently and in order," a Select Committee had served a good purpose. It was particularly necessary that the proceedings should be conducted upon fixed rule in a Committee composed of 70 or 80 Members. He was fully persuaded the public out-of-doors would not be satisfied with the Committees unless there was some guarantee that the Business should be properly and regularly conducted.

Mr. Bryce

MR. WHITLEY said, he thought there would be a general feeling on his side of the House to agree to the proposition of the Prime Minister, provided that at the commencement of next Session Rules were framed for the guidance of the Committees.

CAPTAIN AYLMER understood the position to be that the Prime Minister accepted the first two lines of the noble Lord's Amendment. He (Captain Aylmer) had an Amendment, which he had handed in to the Clerk, and which would come at the end of the noble Lord's Amendment. His object was simply to get a declaration of opinion on the part of the Government on the question. Perhaps, when the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister rose to move his Amendment, he would express some views on his (Captain Aylmer's) Amendment. The Amendment he had desired to introduce was—

"Provided, That all debates in Standing Committees shall be recorded, and printed copies thereof supplied to each Member of this House."

The Reports, no doubt, would be very cumbrous, and he did not suppose that he himself would be inclined to wade through them. They should have some means of knowing, when a Bill was brought up on Report, the reasons why Amendments had been refused or accepted in Committee.

MR. GIBSON said, a Select Committee almost invariably had power to send for Papers, Persons, and Documents. Was it intended that the Standing Committees should have that power? Very often a Committee might desire to have Papers, Persons, and Documents. Was it intended that in any case the House should have the power to give such an order? If it was, the Standing Committee would be made nothing more or less than a new-fashioned Select Committee. If they gave the Committees power of taking evidence, they must then give the House, when the Bill came back on Report, power to read the evidence given by the witnesses.

MR. DODSON said, he could, in a very few words, answer the question of the right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Gibson). There was no general rule as to Select Committees having power to send for Papers, Persons, and Documents. When a Select Committee was appointed which the House thought ought to have power to send for Papers,

Persons, and Documents, the House made a special order accordingly. That power was generally given to Committees which were appointed for the purpose of inquiry; it was very seldom given to a Committee appointed to go through the clauses of a Bill. In the case of a Standing Committee, he apprehended that, as the Committee was intended to go through clauses, such power would not be considered necessary, and power would not be given. If it were necessary, as in the case of any other Committee, the House would make an order for the purpose.

MR. GIBSON asked if it was intended to have witnesses examined before the Standing Committees?

MR. DODSON said, if the House should in any particular case wish the Standing Committee to have that power, it would give power for the purpose.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL asked leave to withdraw the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment made, by adding at the end of the Question, the words—

"And the procedure in such Committees shall be the same as in a Select Committee, unless the House shall otherwise order: Provided, That strangers shall be admitted, except when the Committee shall order them to withdraw: Provided also, That the said Committees shall be excluded from the operation of the Standing Order of July 21st 1856; and the said Committees shall not sit whilst the House is sitting without the order of the House."—(*Mr. Gladstone*.)

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, an Amendment of his stood next on the Paper. It was to add, at end—

"It shall be the duty of Mr. Speaker to determine whether any particular Bill falls within the operation of this rule, and he shall inform the House of his decision in this respect on the Order for the Second Reading being read by the Clerk."

MR. GLADSTONE said, that although the Government had no objection to the words proposed by the right hon. Gentleman he hardly thought they were necessary.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he put the Amendment down merely for the purpose of raising a discussion as to whether there ought to be any direction given to the Chair.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he desired to repeat a question he had asked earlier in the evening. He wished to ask whether, if at any time it was

desired to prolong the Sittings of the Committee, the matter would be subjected to the decision of the House; whether, when application was made for the prolongation of the Sitting, that would be matter for debate?

MR. SPEAKER: The order of the House is, of course, by the authority of the House.

Amendment *negatived*.

MR. GORST said, there was an Amendment in his name which he did not intend to move. It was that the Standing Committees should not consider any Bills which, under the ordinary practice of the House, would be considered by a Committee of the Whole House. What he wanted to be assured of was, that the Standing Committee would not usurp any of the powers which were now exercised by the Committee of the Whole House in respect of such clauses which, under ordinary circumstances, would be considered by the Committee of the Whole House.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, the Amendment which he had now to move was one of some importance. If a Bill were committed to a Committee upstairs, hon. Members connected with all the great towns would undoubtedly receive from their constituents a great number of Amendments. All he wanted to insure was that, in some form or other, the Amendments which were handed to the Member for a particular town should reach the Committee; otherwise, one of the great objects of the Prime Minister would be certainly defeated, because if a Member could not send an Amendment to the Committee upstairs he would be inclined to introduce it when the Bill came down on Report.

Amendment proposed,

To add, at the end thereof, the words "Provided also, That any Notice of Amendment to any Clause in a Bill which may be committed to a Standing Committee given by any honourable Member in the House shall stand referred to such Committee, who shall consider the same."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

MR. DODSON said, it appeared to him that there would be a great practical difficulty through the addition of these words. The only way in which a Member could give Notice of an Amendment, when he was not a Member of a Committee, was by inducing some Gen-

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tleman who was a Member of the Committee to take charge of the Amendment for him. There was no other way in which it could be done; and unless some Member of the Committee took charge of the Amendment, with the intention of explaining and recommending it to the Committee, the Amendment would not be of much value. He thought the right hon. Gentleman would be satisfied with having called attention to the matter. A Member would always be able to find some Member of the Committee to take charge of the Amendment; and, if not, he would have his remedy when the Bill came back to the House.

MR. W. H. SMITH said, it was precisely that remedy which he thought would cause the breakdown of these Resolutions. If the object with which the Government proposed these Committees was to be attained, all Amendments or clauses in Committee ought to be considered in Committee upstairs. The right hon. Gentleman argued that four-fifths of the House, who were not Members of these Committees, were to have their remedy by introducing other Amendments on Report or Re-committal. It appeared to him that great danger would be incurred of the whole last stage of the Bill being lost while the time would be occupied on the Report by the consideration of Amendments proposed by Members who were not on the Committees. If the Government wished to make this an effective measure, they should propose some scheme by which Amendments of importance and gravity, suggested by hon. Members who were not on the Committees, should be considered by the Committee upstairs.

CAPTAIN AYLMER, who had a similar Amendment on the Paper to that before the House, asked, if he was not on one of these Committees, how was he to bring forward Amendments, and how should he be able to report why they were thrown out, and the reasons advanced against them? He could not know what arguments were advanced, or what took place in the dark. He had given Notice of an Amendment to the effect that a Member desiring to move an Amendment, and not being a Member of the Committee, should have the right to be present and move his Amendment, and, while doing that, to be considered a Member of the Committee. Otherwise,

Mr. Dodson

he did not see how Chambers of Commerce and other bodies were to bring forward their views.

MR. GLADSTONE said, the Amendment of the right hon. Gentleman, as it stood, was open to question; but he thought something might be done upon the matter. He should be prepared to agree to an Amendment providing that all Amendments should be brought formally to the notice of the Committees; and he would, therefore, accept the right hon. Gentleman's Amendment down to the word "Committee."

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he entirely accepted the suggestion of the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister, and would withdraw his Amendment, in order to omit the words "who shall consider the same."

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Amendment made, by adding, at the end thereof, the words—

"That any Notice of Amendment to any Clause in a Bill which may be committed to a Standing Committee given by any honourable Member in the House shall stand referred to such Committee."—(*Sir R. Assheton Cross*.)

MR. J. G. TALBOT said, his Amendment came next, and he hoped there would be no objection to it. He understood the Prime Minister had no objection to it, and therefore he should not argue the matter.

Amendment proposed, by adding, at the end thereof, the words, "Provided also, that Twenty be the Quorum of such Standing Committees."—(*Mr. J. G. Talbot*.)

Amendment *agreed to*.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, he thought, after the way in which the Prime Minister had met the Amendments which had been proposed to this Resolution, he should not carry out his intention of objecting to the Resolution as a whole, although he had the greatest possible distrust as to the working and the operation of the Rule itself.

Main Question, as amended, put.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

II. *Standing Committees.*

RESOLUTION 1 (STANDING COMMITTEES OF LAW AND COURTS OF JUSTICE, TRADE, &c.)

(1.) *Resolved*, That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills

relating to Law and Courts of Justice and Legal Procedure, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may, by order of the House, in each case, be committed to them; and the procedure in such Committees shall be the same as in a Select Committee, unless the House shall otherwise order: Provided, That strangers shall be admitted, except when the Committee shall order them to withdraw: Provided also, That the said Committees shall be excluded from the operation of the Standing Order of July 21st 1866, and the said Committees shall not sit, whilst the House is sitting, without the order of the House: Provided also, That any Notice of Amendment to any Clause in a Bill which may be committed to a Standing Committee given by any honourable Member in the House shall stand referred to such Committee: Provided also, That twenty be the quorum of such Standing Committees.

Further Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure deferred till To-morrow.

House adjourned at a quarter after One o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Friday, 1st December, 1882.

Their Lordships met this day at Eleven of the clock for the despatch of Judicial Business only.

House adjourned at a quarter before Three o'clock, till To-morrow, Four o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Friday, 1st December, 1882.

MINUTES.]—NEW WRIT ISSUED—For Liverpool City, v. the Right Hon. Dudley Francis Stewart Ryder, commonly called Viscount Sandon, now Earl of Harrowby.

QUESTIONS.

SCIENCE AND ART DEPARTMENT— NEW CENTRAL MUSEUM, DUBLIN.]

MR. SEXTON asked the Secretary to the Treasury, Whether he is aware that at a public meeting of the leading citizens of Dublin, held within the past few days, the scheme adopted by the Government for the erection of the National Science and Art Museum in Dublin was condemned and protested against by men of all political parties, and whether not a single voice was raised in its favour at the meeting; whether it is a

fact that a meeting of Irish architects has unanimously condemned the site selected by the Government, and that thirty-six of the principal architects in Ireland, including both non-competitors and competitors, have united in a public declaration that, in position, area, and adaptability for the purpose, the intended site is most inconvenient and unsuitable; that a building erected thereon will be cramped, inconvenient, badly lighted, and deficient in ventilation; that, irrespective of the site in Merrion Square, there is ample room to erect a building in every respect suitable and convenient; that all the competing architects with whom the signatories to the declaration had the opportunity of consulting found the greatest difficulty in providing the required accommodation on the site, but they were restricted by the rigid instructions, and allowed no scope for their suggestions; and several architects, on receiving the instructions furnished to intending competitors, were so convinced of the force of the foregoing objections, that they did not compete; and, whether the Government, in deference to the unanimous opinion of the Irish public, will now agree to re-open the entire question, and will accept the guidance of Irish opinion in regard to the erection of this Irish Institution?

MR. COURTNEY: Sir, I saw that a meeting had been called for the purpose of condemning the Government scheme, and it had done so. Various well-known persons connected with Dublin appear to have been present. I have heard nothing of the meeting of architects; but, after my previous replies, the hon. Member will not be surprised if I think the opinion of Dublin architects on this question must be received with much reserve. No practical suggestion has yet reached me for building on any other site. But the Government will very shortly be in a position to come to a final decision in the matter, when it will have all these representations before it.

WOOLMER FOREST—RECENT FIRES.

MR. SOLATER-BOOTH asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office, Whether the sum of £1,686 16s. 8d. paid to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests as compensation for damage caused by fires in Woolmer Forest in May 1881 (as appears by the last Re-

port of the Commissioners, page 126), was paid by the War Office; and, if so, why the owners of private property who suffered equal or greater losses from the same cause were refused any recognition of their claims to the like compensation?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: Sir, in reply to the right hon. Gentleman, I have to say that the War Office has paid the sum of £1,686 to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests as compensation for damage caused by fire on land at Woolmer Forest leased by the War Department from the Commissioners of Woods and Forests. The payment was made because, by the terms of the lease, the War Department is bound to make good all damage by fire on this land. No land is held at Woolmer of private owners, and the Secretary of State for War has no liability in respect of the adjacent lands not rented by him.

MR. SOLATER-BOOTH said, he would again call attention to the subject.

LAW OF NATURALIZATION — ALDERMAN THOMAS CONNOLLY.

MR. SEXTON asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether it is a fact that on the 6th of July 1877, Thomas Connolly, now an Alderman in the Municipal Council of Drogheda, and high sheriff during the present year of the county of the town of Drogheda, made a declaration on oath in the Court of Common Pleas for the city and county of New York, United States of America, in the following words:—

"I, Thomas Connolly, do declare on oath that it is *bonâ fide* my intention to become a citizen of the United States, and to renounce for ever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Province, Potentate, State, or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, of whom I am a subject.

Sworn this 6th day of July, 1877.

Thomas Connolly.

Nathaniel Jarvis, jr. Clerk."

Whether, if the fact be as stated, the said Thomas Connolly was eligible to be elected and to act as an alderman in the Municipal Council of Drogheda, or to be appointed to act as high sheriff of the county of the town of Drogheda; whether his tenure of those offices is legal; and, whether all or any of the acts done by him as such alderman and

Mr. Solater-Booth

as such high sheriff are null and void in Law?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): Sir, I am not aware whether the facts are as stated in this Question or not; but any person interested in the matter can raise the question, if so advised, by proceeding at law in the ordinary way.

MR. SEXTON: I shall now hand the right hon. and learned Gentleman an attested copy of the declaration made in the Court of Common Pleas in New York, and I shall ask a further Question on the subject at the end of Question time.

[The hon. Member then walked across the floor of the House and placed the Paper in the hands of the Attorney General for Ireland.]

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): I appeal to you, Sir, whether this conduct is not most irregular?

MR. SPEAKER: The right hon. and learned Gentleman will use his own discretion in the matter as to what he will do with the Paper.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): If I am in Order, the course I shall adopt is to return this document to the hon. Member in a sealed envelope. When I find the Mayor of the town elected to that duty, and fulfilling that office, I take it that *primâ facie* he is fully qualified to discharge that duty, and I really cannot undertake to inquire whether he is or not.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT—SECS. 21-22—CASE OF H. BRENNAN.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he will state the circumstances which were held to justify the sentencing of Mr. Henry Brennan, of Cliffoney, county Sligo, to three weeks' imprisonment; and, by what section of the Crime Prevention Act the sentence was authorised?

MR. TREVELYAN: At half-past 8 o'clock on the evening of the 30th ultimo, two sub-constables arrested two men for fighting in the streets of Cliffoney. Henry Brennan came up and seized one of the constables by the collar and demanded his authority for making the arrest. A large crowd assembled and stones were thrown at the

police, and had it not been for assistance coming up, the prisoners would have been rescued. The night was so dark that no one except Brennan could be identified. The charge against him was heard by two Resident Magistrates, and he was sentenced to imprisonment for the offence, under Section 8, Sub-section D, as directed by Sections 21 and 22 of the Prevention of Crime Act.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE— SPECIAL GRATUITY.

MR. GIBSON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Commission appointed to inquire into the complaints of the Dublin Metropolitan Police has as yet formally reported; whether one of those complaints was that the Dublin Metropolitan Police had been excluded from the gratuity given to the constabulary for special services; whether the Commission has made any Report as to this complaint; and, if so, what is its purport; and, whether, having regard to the great strain now placed on the exertions and sense of duty of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, he will give prompt effect to any recommendations made by the Commission in favour of the force?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Commission appointed to inquire into the complaints of the Dublin Metropolitan Police has not yet formally reported. One of the complaints was that the Metropolitan Police had been excluded from the gratuity given to the Constabulary. The Commission made a preliminary Report in reference to this complaint, recommending that the gratuity should be granted. Immediate attention has been given to that recommendation, and the Irish Government has obtained the assent of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to a gratuity not exceeding three months' pay being given to the men of the Dublin Metropolitan Police. Under the circumstances, the Government is prepared to advance the money out of civil contingencies—the amount to be repaid next Session out of a Vote which we shall present to the House, and which we hope will be sanctioned.

PRISON ACTS—THE “AUSTRIAN STICK.”

MR. HOPWOOD asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

Whether there is in use in the prisons any instrument for the infliction of corporal punishment on criminals besides the “cat” or birch rod; and, whether one “like three canes twisted together,” or otherwise resembling the “Austrian stick,” has been introduced and used?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: I answer both these Questions in the negative.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACTS— BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

MR. J. G. TALBOT asked the Vice President of the Council, Whether he will inquire whether placards connected with some of the candidates for the School Board at Birmingham continued to be exhibited on some of the Board Schools of that town after the declaration of the Chairman, quoted by him in this House; and, whether, in that case, he will draw the attention of the School Board to the matter, with a view to enforcing the impartiality which he desires?

MR. MUNDELLA, in reply, said, that after the very fair statement which he had read from the Chairman of the school board last week, he did not think the House should have been troubled with this further Question. He had, however, received the following telegram from Mr. Dixon on the subject:—

“The placards referred to do not continue to be exhibited on some of the Board Schools of Birmingham. There has not been any partiality shown, the placards of every party having been posted on one of the schools, that of the Bible party appearing the first.”

In his opinion, this statement entirely exonerated the school board of Birmingham from the charge of partiality that had been made against it.

MR. J. G. TALBOT explained that the reason he had put the Question was because his information was to the effect that these placards had continued to be exhibited after the statement of the right hon. Gentleman and before the election.

LAW AND JUSTICE—THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS.

MR. J. G. TALBOT asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

Whether his attention has been drawn to the remarks of Mr. Justice Hawkins, at the Old Bailey, on the 28th November, on the subject of the failure of the Public Prosecutor in the preparation of prosecutions; and, whether he proposes to take any action in the matter?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT: The Public Prosecutor is sometimes supposed to be a subordinate agent of the Home Office; but that is not the fact. Mr. Justice Hawkins was entitled to make his observations; but they would have been entitled to greater respect, and would have been more useful, if they had been addressed either to the Attorney General or to the Home Office, instead of generally to the public. If any facts had been stated, it would have been more easy to inquire what the grievance was. I have always been of opinion that the office of Public Prosecutor ought to be established on a far more extensive scale. In fact, I said so at the time the office was created. At present it is established upon a very narrow scale indeed, there being only one gentleman, with an assistant, to do all the public prosecutions of the country, which greatly limits his power for usefulness.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS inquired whether the right hon. and learned Gentleman would put himself in communication with the Attorney General and the Treasury, in order to press the necessity of the original scheme being carried into effect?

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR inquired whether the right hon. and learned Gentleman would ask the Judges to confine themselves to the discharge of their official duties in the future, and not to deliver public harangues from the Bench?

[No reply was given.]

ARMY (AUXILIARY FORCES)— WARRANT RANK OF TRANSFERRED OFFICERS OF ROYAL MARINES.

MR. NEWZAM NICHOLSON asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether the question of Warrant rank for non-commissioned officers from the Royal Marines who have been transferred to Militia regiments is yet arranged?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: This Question ought to have been ad-

ressed to the Secretary of State for War, as it lies with him to determine which classes of non-commissioned officers serving with the Auxiliary Forces should receive warrant rank. I may, however, say that the conditions under which Marines serve with Militia and Volunteer Regiments are under the consideration of the two Departments.

PIERS AND HARBOURS (IRELAND)— CLARE CASTLE PORT AND PIER.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If the Treasury will grant any facilities for the creation of a local Harbour Board for the management of the Port of Clare Castle, and the improvement of the navigation of the River Fergus to that point?

MR. COURTNEY (in answering the Question) said: The suggestion in this Question has already been under consideration, and it is so at the present time. It involves the breaking up of the Shannon Trust, which would require legislation, and the distribution of its assets, liabilities, duties, and privileges between a certain number of local bodies. To this the Government have already professed themselves favourably disposed in principle; but the constitution of the local bodies presents much difficulty.

MR. KENNY also asked, If the Treasury will consent to grant the surplus sum, amounting to considerably over £2,000, to the credit of the Port of Clare Castle, to improving the navigation of the River Fergus to that place?

MR. COURTNEY: I am not aware of any such balance as that named in the Question now standing to the credit of Clare Castle; but my answer to the previous Question will have shown the hon. Member that his suggestion, though premature at present, will be duly considered at the proper time, should the course indicated in that answer prove capable of adoption.

SPAIN—INTERNATIONAL LAW— SURRENDER OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign

Mr. J. G. Talbot

Affairs, Whether he will lay upon the Table of the House any communications which may have taken place from 1869 to 1871 between Her Majesty's Consuls in Cuba and the Governor of Nassau with any of Her Majesty's Secretaries of State, relative to the acts and proclamations of the Captain General of Cuba with respect to refugees or rebels escaping from Cuba?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: We can find no trace in the archives of the Foreign Office of the communications between Her Majesty's Consuls and the Secretaries of State referred to by the right hon. Member; but as regards those from the Governor of Nassau, they would naturally be addressed to the Colonial Office. There were two Proclamations sent home by Her Majesty's Consul General, one dated March 24 and the other July 7, 1869. The second abrogates the first. The earlier of these Proclamations, which was never acted upon, is relative to the seizure upon the high seas of vessels, arms, men, and ammunition, and persons suspected of lending aid to the insurgents. Nothing is said about landing refugees. The Proclamation rather appears to apply to vessels on the high seas going to, than to vessels quitting Cuba.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS: I beg to ask the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, whether the Papers referred to yesterday are ready for production?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, that the Colonial Office had not received the letter he had referred to yesterday. He, however, undertook that before the Prorogation all the Papers received on this subject up to the Prorogation should be laid upon the Table.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, whether the authorities at Gibraltar gave to the ladies who accompanied General Maceo the option of remaining in the fortress; or whether they were expelled by the police at the same time as the General?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: The Government telegraphed to Gibraltar inquiring whether the ladies referred to had or had not asked to be allowed to stay in the fortress. His impression was that they did not wish to be separated from the others; but he had got no answer to his telegram.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF stated that, in reply to a private telegram sent last night, he was informed that the ladies were now free.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—COURT VALUERS.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the Court Valuers attached to the Land Commission for appeal purposes will be dispensed with at the same time as those attached to the Sub-Commissions; and, if not, if he will state the reason?

MR. BRODRICK asked if the right hon. Gentleman would state what was their tenure of office; and, whether the views expressed in the debate on Tuesday evening would be taken into consideration?

MR. TREVELYAN: The 17 valuers appointed to be attached to the Sub-Commissions, and whose services are to be discontinued, stand on a completely different footing from the valuers previously appointed to value—(1) for appeal purposes; (2) to determine fair rents out of Court; and (3) to assist the County Court Judges. And, with regard to the valuers employed under these three heads, there is no present intention of dispensing with them. With regard to the tenure of office, I would prefer answering the Question after consultation with the Land Commissioners; but the views expressed in the debate on Tuesday night will be considered.

MR. GIBSON asked what the right hon. Gentleman meant by the expression "present intention?" Was it intended to indicate that the employment of these gentlemen was precarious?

MR. TREVELYAN replied, that he had used the words without intending to convey any such impression.

MR. HEALY gave Notice that next Session he would call attention to the continuance of valuers in the Superior Courts, when a similar course was not taken in the case of the Inferior Courts, where they were more wanted.

MR. MACARTNEY inquired as to whether it would not be necessary for the Sub-Commissioners to go over the land upon the valuers being dispensed with?

[No reply was given.]

MALTA — RESIGNATION OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR. ANDERSON asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, If it be the fact that the electors of two constituencies in Malta have so insulted the Legislative Council that nearly all the Members have resigned, and the Council has practically ceased to exist; whether he will, before the election of a new Council, modify the electorate, by abolishing the language test, or in some way extending the franchise; and, what steps the Colonial Office are taking under the circumstances?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY: The facts in the first part of the Question are, roughly speaking, correct. Some months ago the Government of Malta was desired to propose to the Council an extension of the franchise; but now that the Council has virtually dissolved itself, it is an open question whether it would be best, as suggested, to have the election of a new Council under an extended franchise, enacted by Letters Patent.

BRAZIL—CLAIMS OF BRITISH
SUBJECTS.

MR. ANDERSON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether British claims against Brazil are yet settled, or how long the Brazilian Government is to be allowed to evade these?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: My hon. Friend must not forget that there are counter-claims. We are trying to come to an adjustment of the British claims, which are, at the present moment, undergoing careful scrutiny for that purpose.

MR. ANDERSON asked whether it was not the fact that these counter-claims arose in connection with the liberation of slaves and the seizure of slave ships, and were such as the Government were not entitled to sanction?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I cannot answer that Question without Notice.

MADAGASCAR—ADMIRAL GORE
JONES'S REPORT.

MR. GEORGE PALMER asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether he will lay upon the Table of the House a Copy of Admiral Gore Jones's official Report of his visit to Madagascar last year?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, the Question was one for his hon. Friend the Secretary to the Admiralty to answer.

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN said, the Admiralty had not considered the matter; but he did not think there would be any objection to consulting with the Admiralty, if necessary, with a view to the Report being laid on the Table.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL asked, with reference to Madagascar, if it were true that a deputation from that Island would be received at the Foreign Office to-morrow; and, whether, if they had an audience of Her Majesty, they would be received with the usual ceremony?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, the Question of the noble Lord was rather irregular. The deputation would be received to-morrow afternoon; but he had not heard that they had applied for an audience of Her Majesty.

CHINA—THE CHEFOO CONVENTION.

MR. CROPPER asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the matters in debate in the Chefoo Convention have been settled, as has been asserted in some of the newspapers?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The answer to the hon. Member's Question is in the negative.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS (METRO-
POLIS) — PRECAUTIONS AGAINST
FIRE, &c.—CAPTAIN SHAW'S REPORT.

MR. MACFARLANE asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, If he has received from the Metropolitan Board of Works the Report of Captain Shaw upon the Theatres and other places of public entertainment; and, if so, whether he will lay them upon the Table of the House? He asked the Question yesterday in the absence of the Home Secretary; but the hon. Member (Mr. Hibbert), who replied to the Question, was unable to explain the motives for withholding the Report.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, in reply, said, that in regard to Papers of that kind it was more usual to state the reason for presenting them, rather than the reason for not doing so. He did not think there would be any advantage in laying this Report on the Table. It

directed certain things to be done, in order to remove dangers which were believed to exist. It would be very unfair to lay a Report of the dangers to which theatres were exposed on the Table, without, at the same time, explaining what had been done in order to remove them.

MR. MACFARLANE said, it was well known that these Reports condemned specifically certain theatres, and if it were not known which theatres—

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member cannot debate the matter; he can only put a Question.

MR. MACFARLANE intimated that on Monday he would ask the Home Secretary to specify the places so condemned, in order that the public might know which were safe and which unsafe.

ARREARS OF RENT (IRELAND) ACT— MR. FITZMAURICE HUSSEY, J.P.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, with regard to the inquiry that the Lord Chancellor of Ireland had made into the case of Mr. Fitzmaurice Hussey, J.P., and his denial of having exacted fees from tenants in respect of the swearing of affidavits required by the Arrears Act, Whether the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, in view of such a serious charge, will rest satisfied with a mere denial by the person against whom the charge is made; or, whether he will receive and consider any affidavit which may be tendered in support of the charge against Mr. Fitzmaurice Hussey?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Lord Chancellor invariably receives and considers any properly supported charge made against a magistrate; and if an affidavit is submitted to him in support of the charge against Mr. Fitzmaurice Hussey it will, as a matter of course, have his consideration.

STATE OF IRELAND—THE PUBLIC MEETINGS AT ST. MULLIN'S, CO. CARLOW—RECENT INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES—MR. HEALY AND MR. DAVITT.

MR. SEXTON asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether a Government shorthand-writer was present during the proceedings of the public meeting held on Sunday last, at St. Mullin's, county

Carlow; whether the Irish Government have been supplied with an official shorthand-writer's note of the speech delivered at the meeting in question by the honourable Member for Wexford; whether, considering that he did not know yesterday whether there was any official shorthand-writer's note of the speech in question in existence, he will now state upon what evidence he arrived at the decision communicated to the House with respect to the speech of the honourable Member for Wexford; whether it has been decided that in case a person who gives bail to be of the peace and of good behaviour, is found, during the existence of the recognisances in force, out of his usual place of abode after nightfall, his bails may be estreated; whether bails have been recently estreated in Ireland under the circumstances stated; and, whether, if bail were given by the honourable Member for Wexford and Mr. Michael Davitt, they would be held liable to have their securities estreated in case they were found absent after nightfall from their usual places of abode?

MR. TREVELYAN: No Government shorthand writer was present at the meeting at St. Mullin's, County Carlow, on Sunday last. A constable was present who took notes; and the Government are of opinion that they are in possession of sufficient evidence taken on the spot to sustain the proceedings that have been directed. With regard to the remainder of the Question, it must depend entirely on the circumstances under which a person bound to good behaviour is found out after nightfall, whether or not a breach of the recognizance has taken place. There is no record in the Constabulary Office of any instance of bails having been estreated on the ground of a proceeding under the 11th section.

MR. WARTON gave Notice that on Monday next he would ask the Attorney General for Ireland, what steps he intended to take to secure the good behaviour of Mr. Davitt and Mr. Healy in accordance with what had been said by the Chief Secretary for Ireland on the 30th of November?

MR. PARNELL: I wish to ask the right hon. and learned Gentleman under what Statute the proposed proceedings are to be taken against Mr. Healy and Mr. Davitt?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): The hon. Gentleman will be informed of this when the proceedings are instituted.

MR. PARNELL: I beg to say that, in view of the very extraordinary answer that has just been given by the right hon. and learned Gentleman to a most proper Question, I will repeat that Question on the next day upon which the House sits.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): By that time I shall probably be able to say that the proceedings have been instituted.

MR. PARNELL: Is the right hon. and learned Gentleman unable to say now under what Statute it is intended to proceed?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): I am, Sir. I have it under consideration. There are two Statutes.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT—THE "CURFEW" CLAUSE.

MR. HEALY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether, amongst the "bad characters" whom the police have been directed to arrest in Dublin under the Curfew Clause, females who ply their calling in the streets for immoral purposes, and persons suspected of robbery and theft will be included?

MR. TREVELYAN: The classes of persons who are within the scope of the section referred to are those who are abroad under circumstances giving rise to a reasonable suspicion of criminal intention, and that is a question of fact in each case. Persons suspected of robbery and theft would be included legally; but, generally speaking, it may be said that the action of the police will be governed by the supplementary Proclamation which I read yesterday. The new powers will not take the place of the ordinary powers of the law, but will be supplementary to them, for the purpose of dealing with persons connected with secret societies who endanger the lives of peaceful citizens.

MR. HEALY asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, whether prostitution was not a criminal offence? He wished to ask whether the offence in question was not an offence for which persons could be imprisoned; and, whe-

ther the police in many parts of the country were not directed to proceed against such persons?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): It is not *per se*.

ANSTRUTHER HARBOUR—LOAN.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE BALFOUR asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, To state the amount of interest actually remitted on the Loan to Anstruther Harbour, referred to in the note at page 122 of the Report of the Public Works Loan Commissioners; to state the intentions of the Treasury in regard to the arrears of interest on the Loan for Dunbar; and, what is to be done in regard to the arrears of capital on both harbours?

MR. COURTNEY: My hon. and gallant Friend not having given any Notice of this Question, I have been unable to procure the figures with the accuracy which he would desire. Neither am I prepared to state off-hand the intentions of the Treasury on a matter which is in no way urgent, and which has not been recently before them. Perhaps he will repeat his Question on Monday.

EGYPT—ARABI PASHA.

MR. LABOUCHERE asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether the following modification in the rules of procedure on the trial of Arabi Pasha has been submitted to Her Majesty's representative in Egypt, and has met with their approval, which were as follows:—

"Rule of Procedure agreed on by Borelli Bey, October 21st, in the name of the Egyptian Government, and on behalf of the Commission of Inquiry.

"The defence shall be free. Counsel may call any witness they deem expedient, whether already heard or not, and examine them. The President may declare the inquiry closed if the desire to prolong uselessly the case is manifest: "Any of the accused may appoint foreign counsel."

"Rules of Procedure enacted by the Commission of Inquiry on November 12th.

"The whole case for the defence, comprising cross-examination and production of evidence, must under all circumstances be completed by the 26th December. Counsel can only examine witnesses through the President, who may stop any question he may think fit:

"The accused can only appoint counsel after the completion of the preliminary examination.

The counsel for the defence must give up their documents to the Commission of Inquiry before it completes its labours?"

The hon. Member said, he did not wish to press the Question if the hon. Baronet could inform them that the statements which appeared in that day's papers in regard to Arabi were correct—namely, that some arrangement had been come to whereby the charges against him would be withdrawn, except as regarded the rebellion, and that he was to be condemned to some species of banishment. He also wished to ask whether those who were concerned with Arabi would be dealt with on the same terms?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The answer to the Question on the Paper is in the negative. With reference to the further Questions put by the hon. Member, I may say that we have received no communication whatever from the Egyptian Government in the sense indicated by the Question; and, of course, we must act in anything we do on what we hear from the Egyptian Government.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: But has the hon. Baronet received no communication from Lord Dufferin?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: We have received various rumours, but, as I have said, no communication from the Egyptian Government. Of course, Lord Dufferin gives us information; but he cannot answer for the Egyptian Government.

MR. JOSEPH COWEN: Will the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs say whether, if Arabi is to be released, Parliament is to be afforded any facilities for the discussion of the question of his release, for that alters the whole matter?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: That, I think, is a Question which should be directed to the Prime Minister.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT—THOMAS AND PATRICK KILLEEN.

MR. O'CONNOR POWER asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If he can now state that the Messrs. Killeen, of Ballyglass, county Mayo, two blind musicians, who are neither charged with nor suspected of any crime, shall not be prevented from following their occupation; whether the

Government propose to take any notice of the local resident magistrate who illegally prohibited the opening of their school; and, whether he will lay upon the Table the Correspondence which has passed between the Lord Lieutenant and the Messrs. Killeen?

MR. TREVELYAN: I have directed further inquiry to be made into this case, as I think that these men should not be prohibited from opening their school, so long as it is merely a school for dancing and is properly conducted.

RAILWAYS—IVY BRIDGE—TURIFF TURNPIKE ROAD BRIDGE.

MR. GOURLEY asked the President of the Board of Trade, If he has caused special inquiries to be made with regard to the fall of the Ivy Bridge on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway, on the 24th November, when seven men were killed; also of the Turiff Turnpike Road Bridge, on the Great Northern of Scotland Railway, on Monday the 27th November, when five passengers were killed and several injured; and, if the Board of Trade conduct any periodical surveying supervision over the condition of Railway bridges, carriages, and other rolling stock, similar to that exercised over passenger carrying shipping?

MR. OHAMBERLAIN, in reply, said, the Board of Trade intended to investigate the fall of the bridge on the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway. Major Marindin, at the present moment, was engaged in a similar inquiry in regard to the Turiff turnpike road bridge. With regard to the latter portion of the Question, Parliament had not imposed upon the Board of Trade the duty of conducting any periodical surveying supervision over the condition of railway bridges, carriages, and other rolling stock. If it had, it would require an army of officials, and would undoubtedly tend to lessen the responsibility of Railway Companies, and therefore, in his opinion, increase the danger. At the same time, however, although the Board of Trade had no general power of supervision, he was always ready to order an inquiry, and report if circumstances were brought to his knowledge which led him to believe that any particular structure, bridge, or part of the permanent way was likely to be a source of danger to passengers.

EGYPT (ARMY RE-ORGANIZATION).

SIR WILFRID LAWSON asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Whether it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to send out a British General and Officers on full pay to take command of the Egyptian Army?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The Egyptian Government have applied to Her Majesty's Government for the services of some officers, and communications on the subject are now passing.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: Will they still be subject to the Mutiny Act?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: That is a question for the Legal Officers, or for the War Office.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: Perhaps the Judge Advocate General will answer that.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF: Will the same course be adopted towards these officers as was adopted towards Hobart Pasha, who was obliged to leave the British Navy?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: No, Sir; I think not; but the matter is under the consideration of the Government.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: Can the hon. Baronet tell us in what way this differs from annexation?

[No reply was given.]

NAVY—THE ROYAL MARINES—H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

SIR JOHN HAY asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether the rumour is true that the rank of Honorary General of Marines is to be revived in favour of a Flag Officer; whether any emolument is to be attached to the office, if created; and, whether the Admiralty have considered the Order in Council of 1837, which abolished the appropriation of this rank to officers of the Navy, and the approval of that abolition by the Royal Commission of 1840?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: Sir, it is proposed to appoint His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to be honorary colonel of the Corps of Royal Marines. This is in no sense a revival of the former rank of honorary general, which was a paid sinecure office. The rank of honorary colonel is to be conferred on the Duke of Edinburgh, not

as a flag officer, but as a Prince of the blood; the position will be purely honorary, with no emoluments and no duties in connection with the corps; and the Board of Admiralty have reason to believe that the compliment thus conferred will be highly appreciated by the officers and men of the Royal Marines.

MR. DIXON-HARTLAND asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, Whether, to allay the feeling of mortification amongst the officers of the Royal Marines at their not being able to sit on Courts Martial on their own officers and men, and having no status whatever whilst serving under the Naval Discipline Act, he is prepared to hold out the hope that the same rights and privileges as are accorded to them under the Military Discipline Act will be granted to this gallant corps when serving under the Naval Discipline Act; and, if not, if he will give any reason why they should not be accorded?

MR. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN: Sir, I have nothing to add to the answer I gave yesterday to the same Question.

IRELAND—SCARIFF DRAINAGE WORKS.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Why the Scariff Drainage Works, the Bill for which passed both Houses of Parliament, have not been carried into operation; if the Board of Works applied to the local magistrates to afford the necessary securities; and, what steps the Government purpose taking, consequent upon the refusal by the magistrates to afford such securities, to have these works carried out?

MR. COURTNEY (for Mr. TREVELYAN): This Question having been put with short Notice, I can only say that neither my right hon. Friend nor I have any knowledge of the alleged facts; but I will inquire at once into the matter, and hope to be able to give a reply on Monday. I observe, however, that the Scariff Drainage Board was constituted by an Act passed in 1880, and that a loan to it of nearly £33,000 was sanctioned in the autumn of that year.

NAVY—THE "VICTORIA AND ALBERT" YACHT.

MR. GOURLEY asked the Secretary to the Admiralty, If it is intended to

repair Her Majesty's wooden yacht "Victoria and Albert;" if so, at what cost; if not, is it intended to build a new vessel; of what material and at what probable cost; and, if at one of the dockyards, or by public tender; further, to inquire the annual cost of maintaining the four vessels now held at the disposal of Her Majesty; and, whether he considers it necessary to maintain more than two yachts in Commission, seeing that Her Majesty seldom resorts to this mode of travelling?

MR. CAMPBELL - BANNERMAN: The *Victoria and Albert* is under survey, and no decision has been arrived at regarding her repair. With regard to the cost of maintaining the Royal yachts, I cannot state it at present; but if my hon. Friend will move for a Return of it, it will be granted. In reply to his last Question, I have to say that, in the opinion of the Admiralty, the provision of vessels which has been sanctioned by successive Boards of Admiralty for the use of Her Majesty and the Royal Family is not excessive.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND)
ACT—PROCLAMATION OF THE
CITY OF DUBLIN.

MR. PARNELL asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether he will lay upon the Table of the House, a Copy of the Instructions given to the police with regard to the way in which they are to execute their duties under the recent proclamation of the city of Dublin; whether persons arrested under this proclamation will be taken at once before the magistrates, and their offences adjudicated upon; whether they will be left in the cells all night; and, if so, whether clean cells will be provided for them, and this class of prisoners kept apart from the other ordinary night charges?

MR. TREVELYAN: The instructions given to the police as to carrying out the provisions of the 11th section of the Prevention of Crime Act are confidential and cannot be laid on the Table. The duty of a constable making an arrest in this case is to take the person forthwith before the nearest available Justice, who is to inquire into the circumstances of the case, and may either discharge the person at once, or, by committal or bail, secure his appearance before a

summary Court, where the matter will be adjudicated upon. The persons so arrested will be dealt with in the ordinary way in which persons arrested in the Dublin Police District are dealt with. If they have to be detained the cells should certainly be clean; and I think it very reasonable that they should not be locked up with the other prisoners, if it can possibly be avoided.

MR. SEXTON, in reference to the statement of the right hon. Gentleman, that persons arrested in this way are to be treated like any other prisoner taken into custody in the Dublin police district, wished to ask whether that meant that the Court of Summary Jurisdiction should deal with their cases the next day in conformity with the ordinary practice in Dublin; or whether they could be detained in custody for seven days?

MR. TREVELYAN: I gather from the telegram I have received from Dublin to-day that the meaning indicated by the hon. Gentleman in the first part of his Question is correct?

MR. HEALY: The right hon. Gentleman states that prisoners will be taken before the nearest available Justice. Does that include the Lord Mayor, who is a Justice of the City of Dublin?

[No reply was given.]

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION—
COURT VALUERS.

MR. CALLAN asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether the communications which passed between the Irish Executive and the Land Commission with respect to the appointment of Court Valuers were verbal or in writing; whether, in stating that the Court Valuers "were chosen by the Land Commission on their own responsibility, and that the Government did not interfere," he intended to convey the impression that the Land Commissioners were alike responsible for the policy of appointing, as well as the selection, of Court Valuers; and, whether he can inform the House by whom the advisability of appointing Court Valuers was first suggested, by the Irish Executive or the Land Commission?

MR. TREVELYAN: The communications which passed between the Irish

Executive and the Land Commission with respect to the appointment of official valuers were both verbal and in writing. I did not intend to convey that the Land Commissioners, who are solely responsible for the selection of the valuers, were responsible for the policy of appointing them. The policy of any such change in the administration of the Act, in my opinion, rests with the Government, who are bound, however, to consult carefully the opinion of the Land Commissioners. It is very difficult to say from whom the first suggestion of appointing valuers came; but, in the shape in which they were ultimately appointed, the recommendation came from the Land Commission.

Mr. CALLAN: Might I ask the right hon. Gentleman, whether it is a fact that the Land Commissioners were at first opposed to the appointments; but that they were ultimately overcome by the Government?

Mr. TREVELYAN: No, Sir. That certainly is not an accurate statement of the case.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)— UNDEFENDED PRISONERS.

Mr. BIGGAR asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether Messrs. Devine and Poole, committed for trial on a charge of murder in Dublin, on Wednesday, had neither counsel nor attorney to defend them before the magistrate; and, whether they are without sufficient means adequately to fee counsel for their trial before the Commission next week; and, if so, will he engage that the reasonable fees of solicitor and counsel shall be paid?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON): Sir, these two persons do not appear to have been professionally represented, although Mr. Byrne, a solicitor, appeared for the other accused persons. I do not know whether or not they are without sufficient means adequately to fee counsel for their trial; but, in any case, the Attorney General for Ireland is absolutely without any authority whatever to direct payment of any fee to a prisoner's counsel or solicitor in any case; and, therefore, it is not in my power to give any engagement in the matter, unless I engage to pay the fees out of my own pocket.

Mr. Trevelyan

THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE— CEREMONY OF OPENING.

Mr. CARINGTON asked the First Commissioner of Works, Whether it is the fact, as stated, that nine hundred tickets have been reserved for distinguished personages to witness the opening of the New Law Courts; whether it is true that only two hundred and fifty of these tickets have been given to Members of both Houses of the Legislature; whether he will be kind enough to inform the House from what section of the community these other six hundred and fifty distinguished personages are drawn; and, upon what principle the selection was made?

Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE: I should have thought the hon. Member might have trusted me to perform this somewhat delicate and not very agreeable duty without too curious inquiry. As, however, he has questioned me about it, I will explain that I have endeavoured, as I believe the Bar would desire, to gather together the most distinguished men of all the various Professions and Bodies in the Metropolis. I find that, after accounting for the places allotted to the Bar, to the 150 Members of this House, and the 50 places to the Lords and their ladies, I have only 550 places at my disposal, and they have been allotted as follows:—To Foreign Ministers and Members of the Corps Diplomatique and their ladies, 50; to Her Majesty's Minister and ex-Ministers and their ladies, 60; to ex-Judges, Privy Councillors, and their ladies, 50; to distinguished Naval and Military officers and to the permanent Heads of the Civil Service, 160; to the Corporation of London, 30; to the Metropolitan Board, 17; to eminent men in Science, Literature, and Art, to the clergy, to distinguished engineers, architects, and actors, 150.

STATE OF IRELAND — RECENT INFLAMMATORY SPEECHES—MR. DAVITT, MR. HEALY, MR. W. REDMOND.

Mr. BIGGAR asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Will he lay upon the Table a Copy of the Government Shorthand Writers' Notes of the speeches of Mr. Davitt, Mr. Healy, and Mr. W. Redmond, in reference to which the Government propose to take action?

MR. TREVELYAN: I cannot undertake to do this. The evidence on which the Government will proceed will be produced in due course in the Court of Law.

IRELAND—INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES—
APPOINTMENT OF A ROYAL COMMISSION.

CAPTAIN AYLMER asked the First Lord of the Treasury, Whether, in accordance with the Memorial presented to him, signed by fifty-nine Members representing Irish constituencies, asking him to consent to a Motion for an humble Address to Her Majesty praying for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the industrial resources of Ireland, he will recommend the appointment of such a Commission?

MR. TREVELYAN, in reply, said, the Prime Minister was in course of communication with the Cabinet on the subject.

WAYS AND MEANS—INLAND REVENUE
—HOUSE TAX ON UNLET HOUSES.

MR. ROUND asked Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Whether he is aware that there are throughout the East of England many farm-houses either unoccupied owing to the farm being unlet, or only so far occupied as to prevent them from falling into disrepair; and, whether he would be prepared to consider such cases with a view to an equitable mitigation of the incidence of the house tax on such tenements, having regard to the profitless condition into which both farms and houses in these cases have been unfortunately reduced?

MR. COURTNEY (for Mr. GLADSTONE), in reply, said, no doubt there were such cases. He was not prepared to introduce changes into the present law, which was sufficiently wide to cover such cases; but any special case of hardship should be submitted to the District Commissioners of Taxes, who would, no doubt, take it into their consideration.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE
HOUSE—STANDING COMMITTEES—
ACCOMMODATION.

MR. ALDERMAN W. LAWRENCE gave Notice that on Monday he would ask the First Commissioner of Works, Whether, during the Recess, he would take the necessary measures to provide ample

accommodation for the two Grand Committees which are to consist of not more than 80, and not less than 60, Members each, and also proper accommodation for Members of that House attending the said Committees not being Members of the same; also sufficient accommodation for the reporters and accommodation for counsel, solicitors, witnesses, and others in attendance; and also suitable accommodation for the general public?

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE said, he would reply now. He had inquired into the matter, and had made arrangements by which he believed that two rooms would be available for the purpose and suitable for the Grand Committees. [*Cries of "Where?"*]

In reply to Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL and Mr. RAIKES,

MR. SHAW LEFEVRE said, that one of the two rooms of the Court of Appeal, which was given up by the House of Lords last year, would be used for the meetings of the Grand Committees, and another room would be formed by throwing a small Committee Room into a larger one.

EGYPT (THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE)
—THE LATE REVIEW IN ST. JAMES'S
PARK — THE 4TH ROYAL IRISH
DRAGOONS.

MR. CALLAN asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office, Whether it is a fact that Colonel Shaw Hellier, in command of the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, allowed his men, on the day of the Review, to be left without any sort of refreshment from the time they left Brighton until they returned?

SIR ARTHUR HAYTER: Sir, the officers commanding corps attending the Review were instructed to make arrangements for providing their men with a meal, and the localities were specified. The Quartermaster General, on going round by desire of His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, was informed by the officer commanding the 4th Dragoon Guards that his arrangements were made, and the contractor with whom he had contracted for a substantial meal would arrive in a few minutes. The contractor states that, owing to the stoppage of the traffic and the crowd at Westminster, he could not reach his station till after the troops had left. He has not been paid, and the

men have been credited with the special allowance granted for the meal. This was the only case of failure in supplying the troops.

PARLIAMENT—THE PROROGATION.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: I beg to ask the noble Marquess the Secretary of State for India, Whether he will inform the House, in the absence of the Prime Minister, what is likely to happen in case all the Amendments on the New Rules are got through to-night—I mean, in the way of Prorogation, or anything of that kind?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: In the happy contingency referred to by the noble Lord we should propose to adjourn till to-morrow. A formal Notice to that effect is not necessary. We shall not propose in any case the House should sit to-morrow for Business; but if the Rules are disposed of to-night, the House would sit to-morrow for the purpose of being prorogued.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON: Is it understood that, if the House should meet to-morrow for Prorogation, no other Business will be taken at all?

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON: The House will meet, I believe, at the usual hour—4 o'clock—and, of course, Business could be proceeded with until the time of Prorogation arrives.

PREVENTION OF CRIME (IRELAND) ACT—EMPLOYMENT OF ROYAL MARINES.

MR. PARNELL: I wish to ask the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland—although, perhaps, the Question should be addressed to the Secretary of State for War—Whether it is true that any application has been made to the Marines to volunteer for police duty in Ireland; and, if so, whether he can inform the House what class of police duties those Marines are to be employed upon; and, whether they will have the execution of the Curfew Clauses of the Prevention of Crime Act?

MR. TREVELYAN: It is true that volunteers have been called from the Marines to assist the police in Ireland; but I cannot at present give any further information on the subject. Care will be taken to guard against any mistakes which might occur from want of local knowledge or experience. There are no

people in Ireland on whom such mistakes would fall more severely than upon the Executive Government.

MR. PARNELL: I wish to ask the Chief Secretary whether he can inform the House whether those Marines are to be employed on protection duty or as constables-in-aid of the civic force?

MR. TREVELYAN: I must decline to give particulars, except so far as to say that arrangements will be made among the police and their new colleagues for the purpose of affording, as far as possible, assistance to the police in carrying out their duty, and that all the duty that can possibly be called protective duty shall be intrusted to the new force.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACTS— DEVONPORT.

MR. STANSFELD, who had on the Paper the following Notice of Motion:—

"Address for Copies of Correspondence between the Town Council of Devonport and the Home Secretary (Right honourable Mr. Bruce), in October 1871, concerning his (Mr. Bruce's) statements to his constituents in Renfrewshire as to the immoral condition of Devonport prior to the passing of the Contagious Diseases Acts, and the alleged moral improvements effected by those Acts; together with the Report of the Town Council on the subject adopted in February 1872, after a Committee of their body had examined the evidence on the subject produced before the Royal Commission; and, of the Report of the Devonport Town Council, adopted on the 12th day of October 1882, after a similar examination of the evidence of Inspector Anniss and Chief Constable Lynn before the late Select Committee of the House on the Contagious Diseases Acts,"

asked the Home Secretary, Whether he could give any information on the subject?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, that on inquiry he had found that none of the Papers referred to were in the Home Office.

LAW AND JUSTICE—THE "MERLIN" LODGE OF ODDFELLOWS.

MR. FIRTH (for Mr. CARBUTT) asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, If he will, in the interests of members of friendly societies generally, state the precise grounds upon which the Director of Public Prosecutions based his inability to further intervene on behalf of the "Merlin" Lodge of Oddfellows, Risca, Monmouth, in their proceedings against their late se-

Sir Arthur Hayter

cretary for withholding a certain balance of moneys alleged to be due to the said lodge?

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT, in reply, said, he had been informed by the Director of Public Prosecutions that he had had a consultation on the subject with Mr. Poland, and they were of opinion that there were no sufficient materials for a prosecution.

LAW AND JUSTICE (IRELAND)—THE VACANT JUDGESHIP.

MR. REDMOND asked Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Whether he could give any information to the House as to how the vacancy which still existed on the Irish Bench would be filled up? The question was one of considerable interest to Ireland.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON), in reply, said, he was unable to satisfy the inquiry of the hon. Gentleman, as the place was not in his gift; it was not a part of his patronage.

MR. REDMOND gave Notice that on Monday he should repeat the Question, in the hope that, in the meantime, the right hon. and learned Gentleman would seek some information on the subject.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR IRELAND (Mr. W. M. JOHNSON) said, that it was a Government question, and suggested that the Question should be put to the Chief Secretary for Ireland.

BOUNDARY (IRELAND) COMMISSIONERS—THE REPORT.

MR. KENNY asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, If the Report of the Boundary (Ireland) Commissioners has yet been published; if not, will the Government expedite its publication; and, when can honourable Members expect to have it circulated?

MR. TREVELYAN: The Report referred to was published on the 4th of July last. The hon. Member can get a copy if he applies for it at the Office for the sale of Parliamentary Papers in the House.

CRIME (IRELAND)—REPORTED MURDER IN COUNTY KERRY.

MR. TOTTENHAM asked the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Whether there was any truth in

the telegram that had appeared to-day that another murder had been committed in County Kerry?

MR. TREVELYAN: I think the hon. Member refers to an unhappy affair which occurred near Castleisland. I have a telegram which states that an agent was walking along a road accompanied by two policemen, when they were fired at, and one of the policemen was severely wounded in the neck. The other policeman fired at the assailant in the dark, and it is not known whether the shot took effect. The agent was not injured.

MOTION.

THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION (VALUERS).—RESOLUTION.

MR. TREVELYAN moved—

“That there be laid before the House, a Copy of Letter, dated the 19th day of October 1882, from the Irish Land Commissioners to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, dealing with the question of the Valuers recently attached to each Sub-Commission.”

The right hon. Gentleman explained that this was the Correspondence from which he quoted in the late debate.

MR. T. P. O’CONNOR asked whether the right hon. Gentleman had got the permission of the Land Commissioners, which he understood had previously been refused, for the presentation of this letter to the House?

MR. TREVELYAN replied that he had not got their permission; but after the course he had taken for the purpose of explaining their conduct, he thought that permission need not be asked.

Question put.

The House *divided*:—Ayes 153; Noes 14: Majority 139.—(Div. List, No. 405.)

Copy *presented* accordingly; to lie upon the Table, and to be *printed*. [No. 416.]

ORDER OF THE DAY.

PARLIAMENT — BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

II. STANDING COMMITTEES.

RESOLUTION 2 (NOMINATION BY COMMITTEE OF SELECTION).

[THIRTY-FOURTH NIGHT.]

[*Thirty-fourth Night.*]

Further Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure resumed.

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That the said Standing Committees do consist of not less than sixty, nor more than eighty, Members, to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, who shall have regard to the classes of Bills committed to such Committees, to the composition of the House, and to the qualifications of the Members selected; and shall have power to add and discharge Members from time to time, provided the number of eighty be not exceeded."—(*Mr. Dodson.*)

Amendment made in line 1, by inserting, after the word "That," the words "each of."—(*Mr. Dodson.*)

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, in rising to move, in line 1, to leave out from the words "consist of," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words—

"Forty Members, who shall be elected by the whole House by ballot in manner herein-after prescribed:—1. Mr. Speaker shall prescribe a day during the sitting of the House, of which not less than one week's notice shall be given, at which the election of any Standing Committee ordered by the House shall take place. 2. The time of election shall be on the day so prescribed between the hours of four and six p.m. 3. Each Member shall have the right of voting for one Member only of such Standing Committee. 4. The vote of each Member shall be given by his delivering personally to an officer appointed by the Speaker to receive the votes a paper containing his own name and the name of the person voted for. 5. The votes so given shall be cast up under the direction of Mr. Speaker, and the forty Members who have received the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected as Members of the said Standing Committee. 6. Where two or more Members shall have received an equal number of votes, Mr. Speaker, if it be necessary, shall give a casting vote to so many of such Members as shall be required to make up the number of the said Committee. 7. If less than forty Members be voted for, Mr. Speaker shall appoint another day, of which not less than three days' notice shall be given, on which the supplementary number of Members required for the said Committee shall be elected in manner aforesaid,"

said, he did not know whether it was worth his while to move his Amendment in the absence of the Prime Minister, because he doubted whether the right hon. Gentleman's Colleagues then present on the Ministerial Bench had power to deal with it. No doubt, they had had their answers dictated to them during the morning, and they probably had not any power to deviate from them. He objected to the Grand Committees being appointed by the Committee of Selection, which, from its

constitution, was not likely to make appointments which would give satisfaction to all Parties. The Committee of Selection consisted of three Members from the Conservative, and three Members from the Liberal side of the House—namely, Sir John Mowbray, Mr. Cubitt, and Mr. Orr Ewing; and Mr. Whitbread, Sir Charles Forster, and Mr. Mitchell Henry. He believed the only Member on the Committee who would command the confidence of every independent Member of the House was the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread). For his part, he could not feel an exaggerated amount of confidence in the hon. Baronet the Member for Walsall (Sir Charles Forster), whom he was glad to see in his place, because he believed he was attached by too strong ties to the Front Bench behind which he sat. The same remark he would apply to the three Conservative Members of the Committee, who were also penetrated with what he might call an exaggerated idea of the importance of the views of the right hon. Gentlemen who adorned the Front Opposition Bench, and who would be extremely unlikely to place a proper value on the views of hon. Members who sat below the Gangway on the Opposition side. Nor would he feel much confidence in the selections of the hon. Member for Galway (Mr. Mitchell Henry). At present the House was without any information as to the mode in which the Committee of Selection performed their duties, and he hoped that the hon. Member for Walsall would enlighten the House on that point. If the very important duty of nominating the Standing Committees were to be intrusted to the Committee of Selection, it would be necessary very seriously to consider the position of the Committee next Session. Select Committees, when very large, did not get through their Business very well. The Railway Rates Committee, which was composed of 27 Members, was an example of that. He held that a Standing Committee of 40 Members elected by the House would be able to discharge the duties intrusted to it satisfactorily. The Liberal Party, he thought, would probably prefer to have in its own hands the nomination of its Representatives on a Standing Committee on an important subject—for example, Criminal Law—instead of leaving the matter in the hands of a Com-

mittee of Selection, which did not represent any Party. By his plan, each Party in the House would be represented proportionately. The hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread) had said that on these Standing Committees Parties should be represented according to their strength in the House. With that he cordially agreed; but he failed to see how a Committee of Selection could satisfactorily procure that result. According to his scheme, every Party would have a right to that representation to which its numbers entitled it. For example, in a House of 400 Members, containing 200 Liberals, 150 Conservatives, and 50 Irish Members, the Liberals would have a right to have 20 Members elected by themselves on a Standing Committee, the Conservatives would have a right to have 15, and the Irish Members would have a right to have five. The different Parties could settle beforehand the Members whom they thought ought to serve on a Committee. The service of independent Members on Standing Committees ought not to be a matter settled exclusively by a Committee of Selection, for such Committees often put independent Members with special knowledge aside in order to secure the services of official or ex-official Gentlemen. Scandal had more than once been caused by the present mode of nominating Committees. For example, on the Railway Rates Committee there were seven Railway Directors nominated by the two Whips. As the formation of that Committee amounted practically to an assignment of some of the Railway Companies, these Directors were placed in the position of judges in their own case. There was another objection to the proposal to allow Grand Committees to be nominated by the Committee of Selection. Select Committees nominated by that Committee went through the clauses of a Bill, and afterwards those very clauses could be considered and revised in Committee of the Whole House. In the case of Standing Committees, however, that would not be so; and, therefore, it was very necessary that they should be nominated in such a way as would give general satisfaction to the House. If the proposal of the Government were not changed, a very serious conflict would take place next Session about the composition of the Committee of Selection. At this advanced period of the

Session he did not consider it necessary to enter upon any further explanation of the views he held on this subject; but in the interest of private and independent Members he pressed his Amendment upon the consideration of the House.

Amendment proposed,

In line 1, to leave out from the words "consist of," to the end of the Question, in order to add the words "forty Members who shall be elected by the whole House by ballot in manner hereinafter prescribed:—"

1. Mr. Speaker shall prescribe a day during the sitting of the House of which not less than one week's notice shall be given at which the election of any Standing Committee ordered by the House shall take place;

2. The time of election shall be on the day so prescribed between the hours of four and six p.m.;

3. Each Member shall have the right of voting for one Member only of such Standing Committee;

4. The vote of each Member shall be given by his delivering personally to an officer appointed by the Speaker to receive the votes a paper containing his own name and the name of the person voted for;

5. The votes so given shall be cast up under the direction of Mr. Speaker, and the forty Members who have received the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected as Members of the said Standing Committee;

6. Where two or more Members shall have received an equal number of votes, Mr. Speaker, if it be necessary, shall give a casting vote to so many of such Members as shall be required to make up the number of the said Committee;

7. If less than forty Members be voted for, Mr. Speaker shall appoint another day, of which not less than three days' notice shall be given, on which the supplementary number of Members required for the said Committee shall be elected in manner aforesaid,"—(*Lord Randolph Churchill*.)

—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words 'not less than' stand part of the Question."

Mr. WHITBREAD said, that, after the pointed way in which he had been alluded to by the noble Lord, he desired to offer a few observations, so as to clear the ground before they entered upon the discussion as to the best mode of nominating Grand Committees. The noble Lord had mixed up two subjects which were essentially different—namely, the appointment of Select Committees by the House and the appointment of Select Committees by the Committee of Selection. If Select Committees appointed by the House often contained rather a large proportion of official or

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ex-official Members, the reason was that the Members interested in the questions to be referred to the Committees were generally extremely anxious to have upon those Committees the Gentlemen of the greatest experience and weight in the House. That was why the same names were so often found among the Members of Committees appointed by the House. In the case of Committees appointed by the Committee of Selection, the practice to which he had referred was not so prevalent. He congratulated the noble Lord upon the fact that he and the hon. and learned Member for Chatham (Mr. Gorst) had made up their minds as to which way the wind blew. A short time back the noble Lord told the House that the Members of a Committee of Selection were not sufficiently Party men. A few moments afterwards the hon. and learned Gentleman said that the Members were nominees of the two Front Benches. It would have been as reasonable for the hon. and learned Gentleman to say that a lawyer when he took his seat upon the Bench was a nominee of the Crown. There was nothing so terrible to him about being a nominee of the Front Bench, if he had been one. But if both Front Benches were to combine to interfere with the free and independent action of the Committee of Selection, he had no doubt that the House generally would stand by its Committee. The Committee of Selection was composed of six Gentlemen chosen from different parts of the House, and Party feeling was excluded. The right hon. Baronet (Sir John Mowbray), who presided over that Committee, had been an opponent of the Liberal Party for a vast number of years; but he could pledge himself that he never saw the slightest taint of Party spirit in the discharge of the right hon. Baronet's duties. It was clear that duties of the kind confided to it could not be performed by that Committee if partisanship entered it. The noble Lord must have forgotten that when Members were appointed by the House with a distinct commission and a distinct charge, they met with a loyal determination to do their duty. The noble Lord proposed that the different sections of the House should combine to appoint their proper quota. But how were those sections to be found? How would they guard against having an undue propor-

tion of those dreadful people, the Railway Directors? They might have too many Railway Directors or lawyers, or even possibly brewers. The noble Lord said that the task of the Committee of Selection was an invidious one. He agreed in that with the noble Lord. No doubt the questions they had to deal with were very delicate, and the number of threads to be woven so great that they threatened entanglement every moment. The task was of a sort which no one would desire for himself. It brought no laurels with success, and failure would be attended with disgrace. But, though he never minimized the difficulties of the task, there were considerations on the other side. The House itself recognized the difficulties of the task, and would give a generous interpretation to what was done by the Committee. It seemed to be one of the happy fruits of Parliamentary Government in England that they could draw upon a large store of patriotism, not of a brilliant kind, but of a homely order, and not less worthy in the end.

Mr. RAIKES said, that his hon. Friend the Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread) had well and justly vindicated the character of the Committee of Selection, and he was sure the House would agree with all his hon. Friend had said with regard to that body. But the hon. Gentleman had not taken quite so wide a view of the question raised by the Amendment as he might have done. Because the noble Lord had come forward with an alternative plan, he opened the door to the consideration of various alternative plans which the hon. Gentleman had not referred to. For instance, Standing Committees might be proposed upon the Motion of an individual Member in the way that Select Committees on public questions were formed, or they might be constituted by comparing particular Members who took a special interest in particular questions, or represented constituencies which did, and were, anxious to give their services in the Committees. Therefore, it was not merely a question between the proposal of the Government and the Amendment of his noble Friend; the question was, whether the House would do well to consider whether either of these proposals contained the best solution of a very difficult and perplexing question. One alter-

Mr. Whitbread

native he should be anxious to dismiss at once—namely, that any of these Committees should be formed on the initiative of an individual Member; which, of course, meant an arrangement between the Government and some private Member. He had had some experience, and he believed that of all the bad ways which could be conceived, the very worst was that arrived at by the Secretary to the Treasury on the one side, and the ex-Secretary to the Treasury on the other, proposing a list of Members. Of Hybrid Committees, some Members of which were appointed by the Committee of Selection and others by the House, he was bound to say that while the Committee of Selection always appeared to choose the very best Members available, these were supplemented by Gentlemen suggested on one side or the other whom it was more desirable to keep out of the Committee. Reference had been made to the Railway Committee of the year before last. He had not at that time the honour of a seat in the House; but he saw the list of that Committee with feelings of astonishment, and feared that the result of their deliberations would not be satisfactory. The composition of that Committee could barely have commended itself to the House or the country, although, thanks to the Committee of Selection, or for some other reason, the undesirable elements were neutralized, and the result was better than might have been expected. It seemed to him, if the Committee of Selection had the sole right to arrange the composition of the Grand Committees, that it would probably place nearly all the lawyers in the House on legal Committees, and would have to risk the constant absence of lawyers in practice, while the work would be done by men less eminent in their Profession. And in the same way with regard to trade, it would be found that the great merchants would usually be unable to attend. If, however, the plan were adopted of allowing Members to volunteer their services, much valuable assistance would be obtained. An hon. Member, for instance, representing a manufacturing borough, might not be himself a manufacturer; but, being necessarily in close communication with great manufacturers, he would be able to render better services to the Committee than men who were too busy to attend, or who had something else to occupy them.

These were some of the difficulties of dealing with this question. The Government proposal, though it was susceptible of much improvement, would, he hoped, succeed. At any rate, it was the most practical of the proposals before the House. It should be borne in mind that, like the rest of their scheme, it was purely experimental, and that the House did not bind itself not to reconsider the whole subject, if the arrangement was found not to work out for the best interests of the country.

SIR CHARLES FORSTER said, it was not his intention to enter into a vindication of the Committee of Selection after the remarks of his hon. Friend the Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread); and he was content, indeed, to leave to the judgment of the House the manner in which it performed its duties. The noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill), however, had done him the honour to refer to him, and he desired to say a few words on the remarks he had made. The noble Lord said on Monday last that he was not a fair Representative of the advanced views of the hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) and his Home Rule Friends; and only that evening he said he was connected by such peculiar ties with the Treasury Bench that he should have no confidence in any decision he might come to. In reply to those remarks, he could tell the noble Lord he denied he was subject to any influence that would prevent him doing his duty. The noble Lord was a young Member of the House, and had yet to learn, perhaps, that the first duty of Members of the Committee of Selection was not to this Bench nor to that Bench. It was not to Party; it was to the House itself. The one consideration that influenced that Committee was to appoint Committees the best qualified for the work which they had to perform.

MR. ARTHUR ARNOLD said, that great practical difficulties were involved in the proposal of the noble Lord. A proposal that altogether failed to maintain the relative strength of Parties on the Committee was not likely to result in an equitable selection.

COLONEL MAKINS said, he was bound to protest against the remark of the noble Lord that the composition of the Select Committee on Railways amounted to a public scandal. He was not a

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Member of that Committee; but he did not think it right that such a statement should go forth to the country unchallenged. In his (Colonel Makins') opinion, if several Railway Directors had not been on that Committee, and if, so to speak, the incriminated parties had not been represented, the whole object of the Committee would have been frustrated. As this was a difficult question, perhaps it would be better to give the plan of the Government a trial than to attempt to elaborate a plan which would give all sections of the House a voice in the constitution of the Committees.

MR. DODSON said, he could assure the House that the Government cordially concurred in the view which had been expressed by the right hon. Member for the University of Cambridge (Mr. Raikes); they recognized that this was an experiment, which they asked the House to try. The noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill) had, in a clear and interesting manner, proposed an ingenious and elaborate scheme, the merits of which he would abstain from discussing only because he gathered that the noble Lord was not inclined to press it at present. He could assure the House that the Government had proposed this particular scheme for the appointment of these Committees because the machinery was one which the House was fully acquainted with, and that the Committee of Selection were quite competent to perform the duties which would be placed upon them. He had never heard of any complaint against the Committee of Selection.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL: They only selected Private Committees.

MR. DODSON: They did very much more than that. They selected Members for the Hybrid Committees, and were not unfrequently requested to add Members on other Committees. He believed that, however much Members might be at times partizans when they were selected to act in a *quasi-judicial* capacity, they, like most of their countrymen, subordinated their partizanship and performed their duties well and efficiently. As, however, he gathered that it was not the desire of the noble Lord to press his Amendment, he would not detain the House any longer.

MR. SEXTON said, that, when he first read the plan of the noble Lord, he

Colonel Makins

thought it a great improvement on that of the Government, and his opinion had not been altered by what he had now heard. The condemnation by the right hon. Member for the University of Cambridge (Mr. Raikes) of the plan pursued in the constitution of Select Committees was a healthy contribution to the formation of public opinion. Experience did not seem to dim the original freshness of the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread) if he supposed the House would support the Committee of Selection against the two Front Benches. The Government had been unhappy in their choice of a number in the constitution of a Grand Committee; it was too large for a Committee and too small for a Parliament. But the noble Lord had made a happier choice, for 40 was a quorum of the House; and if that number was large enough for the transaction of the Business of the House, surely it ought to be large enough for a Committee. Then it was better that the whole House should elect a Committee than that it should be constituted by a method which would give the Government power without responsibility. It seemed to be the policy of the Government to shift from itself the responsibility for public acts. The action of the Committee of Selection could not meet with universal approval, and he would rather that the Committees should be openly nominated by the Government on their own responsibility. The nomination of Committees so important as these would be should not be placed in the hands of six Gentlemen who were practically officials. The Irish Party was unrepresented amongst these six Gentlemen; and, indeed, there was only one of them who represented an Irish constituency. He considered that the scheme of election by ballot, as proposed by the noble Lord, would be far superior to the proposal of the Government, because it would enable hon. Members to vote for the men they thought best without fear or favour.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF said, he thought that the proposal of his noble Friend had been dismissed rather summarily by the President of the Local Government Board. He submitted that in a Committee of 40 they could carry on the Business before them in a better manner—in a more conversational mode—than if it consisted of 80 or more,

He had nothing to say against the Committee of Selection, and he had a high respect for the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread)—its moving spirit; but heretofore the principal duties of the Committee of Selection had been to select the Committees which examined Private Bills, as to which there was no Party question; and although they would, no doubt, endeavour to separate themselves from any political bias, yet a political element did enter into those Grand Committees, which could not enter into Private Bill Committees. The great point, however, now to be borne in mind was that, by the creation of those Grand Committees, they were really parting with a portion of their legislative functions. Instead of hon. Members themselves discussing as heretofore, everyone for his constituency, matters of detail connected with particular classes of Bills, they were practically delegating that duty to Grand Committees, and those Grand Committees they were not to elect themselves, but their election was to be intrusted to the Committee of Selection, so that, in fact, there would be in that case a double process of delegation. Therefore, he thought it would be better if the election were made by the House instead of by the Committee of Selection, because it should be remembered that they were not only parting with their rights, but relinquishing a portion of their duties. Although the proposal of the Government was an experimental one and confined merely to the next Session, by the end of which the House would probably be able to judge how the plan worked, he must protest against the relinquishment by the House and by Members of the House of any part of their duties. It was their duty to examine Bills in their details as well as in their principles, and they appeared to be giving up an important part of that duty by delegating to a very small portion of the House the choice of those who were to exercise functions which they were sent there to discharge, and which often seriously affected the best interests of their constituents.

MR. RYLANDS said, he thought that if the proposal of the Government were one of a permanent character, there might have been great force in the ingenious speech of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph

Churchill); and in supporting their scheme he desired to guard himself by doing so entirely on the ground which the Government themselves had taken. They did not pretend that it was a perfectly thought out scheme, but rather regarded it as a somewhat crude and undigested proposal which they placed on the Table, in order that the House, by experience of its working in the next Session, might be able to determine whether it should be got rid of altogether, or should be further developed. He did not disguise that the scheme of the Government in its present shape was open to serious question. The duties of the Committee of Selection had hitherto been of a very formal and limited character, as compared with those now about to be cast upon them; and unless they exercised very great caution in selecting the Grand Committees, the decisions of the Grand Committees would not command the confidence of the House, and a great deal of the time of the House would be occupied on Report. He had every respect for the Committee of Selection; but he was afraid they were imposing on them an almost impossible task, and he believed that the hon. Member for Bedford (Mr. Whitbread) thought so himself. While he looked on the scheme of the Government, therefore, with grave doubts, he still held their objects to be most desirable; and, if they could, by the division of labour, secure greater efficiency in the House as an instrument of legislation, a very great advantage would be gained for the country.

MR. WARTON said, he was persuaded that the scheme of the Government would not work satisfactorily. It was quite clear that the Government could not have contemplated the operation of the 8th Resolution. Not having heard from them that even a day's notice was to be given, he would like some assurance from the Government that an adequate notice was contemplated.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT said, in reference to the question of notice, he did not think any matter was likely to escape the vigilance of the hon. and learned Member (Mr. Warton). He thought, however, the matter was deserving of consideration. With regard to the plan of the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock (Lord Randolph Churchill), he observed that it closely

[*Thirty-fourth Night.*]

resembled one proposed by Mr. Frederic Harrison in the January number of *The Nineteenth Century*. It was a plan which had a good deal to recommend it; and in the event of the proposal of the Government proving unsuccessful, he thought the plan of the noble Lord might then come in for consideration as an alternative plan. No doubt, the Government might have to consider the question of electing Members of the Committees, for they might find that five or six Members who were considered by the House the most eligible persons for serving upon a certain Committee had received all the votes, thereby obliging the Government to suggest that hon. Members should vote for such and such a man—a species of caucusing the House which they had no desire to practise. At the same time, the plan proposed by the Government had been resorted to with advantage by the House, even when matters of great delicacy were concerned. It was clear, however, that such an Amendment as that of the noble Lord, involving a large amount of consideration, could not, at what he hoped was the supreme hour of Parliament, be accepted.

MR. GORST said, he must dissent from the view of the Home Secretary, that the hour was a supreme one, because there remained on the Paper three Resolutions and a number of Amendments. He must confess he was astonished at the great contrast between the glowing speech of the Prime Minister, who introduced the Resolution, and the miserable manner in which the discussion was being carried on by a House rapidly dwindling away. He did not often compliment the Home Secretary; but he must, on that occasion, pay him the compliment of being the only Member of the Government who had given a reason for objecting to the Amendment—though he was bound to add that that reason was a very bad one. He was surprised at the extraordinary shyness exhibited by the right hon. and learned Gentleman at the idea of the Caucus; and he might point out to him that the present scheme secured to so small a number as 10 Members a Representative upon any Committee. Of course, if any Party in the House was so small that it could not muster more than six or five or four Members, it would not be able to do so. It did not follow that, because

hon. Members were qualified to serve on Select Committees, they would necessarily be fitted to serve on these Standing Committees. He was afraid that the great and grand view entertained of these Grand Committees by the Prime Minister when he first laid this scheme before the House was no longer believed in either by himself or his followers. The Grand Committees had lost all their grandeur, and were now nothing more than large Select Committees. Indeed, the Prime Minister seemed to think that it had been a mistake to keep the House together so long for the purpose of considering this part of his proposal, and he now asked them to adopt the proposal, as a sort of experiment, exactly in the form in which it was made by the Government. He was afraid that, when they met again next Session, they would have all their work to do over again.

COLONEL NOLAN pointed out that, whereas it was absolutely necessary to have impartial Members placed on Private Committees, it would be necessary to have interested Members placed on these large Standing Committees, which would be political bodies. He was afraid that the scheme of the Government would entirely change the manner of the election of Committees, and small Parties of the House would be entirely thrown over by the Committee of Selection.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL asked leave to withdraw his Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. NORWOOD said, he begged to move an Amendment, providing that, though the Committee of Selection should be charged with the selection of the Grand Committees, they should submit their nominations to the House for adoption by Motion in the usual way. He thought it was important that the House should not lose its control over the constitution of the Committees.

Amendment proposed,

In line 2, to leave out the word "nominated," and insert the words "selected and submitted by Motion to the House,"—(*Mr. Norwood*),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the word 'nominated' stand part of the Question."

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, the Government were unable to ac-

Sir William Harcourt

cept the Amendment. The effect would be that they would have interminable debates on the appointments to these Committees.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS said, that, while sympathizing with the object the hon. Member had in view, he agreed with the noble Marquess that it would be impossible to accept the Amendment.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

MR. STANLEY LEIGHTON begged to move, in line 2, after "Members," to insert "who shall not be capable of voting unless they have been present during the whole of the discussion."

[The Amendment, not being seconded, could not be put.]

Amendments made, in line 5, by leaving out the words "add and;" and in line 6, by leaving out from the word "time," to the end of the Question, and by adding the words—

"And to appoint others in substitution for those so discharged. The Committee of Selection shall also have power to add not more than fifteen Members to a Standing Committee in respect of any Bill referred to it to serve on the Committee during the consideration of such Bill,"—(*The Marquess of Hartington*),—instead thereof.

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words "and such Members shall be relieved from attendance on Private Bill Committees, and on Select Committees, so long as they shall continue to serve on a Standing Committee."—(*Mr. William Henry Smith*.)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added."

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON thought it would be much better to leave the question to the Committee of Selection.

MR. WHITBREAD said, he considered that great inconvenience would arise from a hard-and-fast line of this sort.

MR. DODSON said, he thought they might leave it to the Committee of Selection to arrange that the duties of Members on different Committees would not clash with each other.

MR. O'SHAUGHNESSY suggested that words should be inserted to carry out that idea.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

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Main Question, as amended, put.

(2.) *Resolved*, That each of the said Standing Committees do consist of not less than sixty, nor more than eighty, Members, to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, who shall have regard to the classes of Bills committed to such Committees, to the composition of the House, and to the qualifications of the Members selected; and shall have power to discharge Members from time to time, and to appoint others in substitution for those so discharged. The Committee of Selection shall also have power to add not more than fifteen Members to a Standing Committee in respect of any Bill referred to it to serve on the Committee during the consideration of such Bill.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

II. Standing Committees.

RESOLUTION 3 (APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN).

(3.) *Resolved*, That the Committee of Selection shall nominate a Chairmen's Panel to consist of not less than four nor more than six Members, of whom three shall be a quorum; and the Chairmen's Panel shall appoint from among themselves the Chairman of each Standing Committee, and may change the Chairman so appointed from time to time.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

II. Standing Committees.

RESOLUTION 4 (COMMITMENT AND REPORT OF BILLS).

Motion made, and Question proposed,

"That all Bills which shall have been committed to one of the said Standing Committees, shall, when reported to the House, be proceeded with as if they had been reported from a Committee of the whole House."—(*The Marquess of Hartington*.)

MR. GIBSON said, that he had an Amendment on the Paper to add to the Resolution the following words:—

"And may be re-committed to a Committee of the whole House if the House shall so direct."

The object of the Amendment was to prevent the 11th Resolution applying to cases under the present Resolution, and to reserve the power of re-committing to a Committee of the Whole House Bills reported from a Standing Committee. But he would not press his Amendment if he was assured that the Government would not treat the 11th Resolution as applicable to Bills reported from a Standing Committee.

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[Thirty-fourth Night.]

MR. DODSON said, he would repeat what he had before stated—namely, that beyond all doubt, according to the law of the House, a Bill might be committed and re-committed any number of times; and it was the distinct intention of the Government, and the true interpretation of the present Rule, that a Member should be at liberty to move to re-commit a Bill as often as he chose.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Sir HENRY JAMES) said, in order to obviate any doubt as to the meaning of the Rule, he would move to add the following Proviso:—

“Provided, That the provisions of the Standing Order (Consideration of a Bill, as amended), shall not apply to a Bill reported to the House by a Standing Committee.”

Amendment proposed,

At the end of the Question, to add the words “Provided, That the provisions of the Standing Order (Consideration of a Bill, as amended), shall not apply to a Bill reported to the House by a Standing Committee.”—(*Mr. Attorney General.*)

Question proposed, “That those words be there added.”

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, asked if the Speaker would state whether, in his opinion, Resolution 11 would conflict in any way with this Resolution?

MR. SPEAKER said, that the law of the House on this point had been correctly laid down by the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board.

Question put, and agreed to.

Main Question, as amended, put.

(4.) *Resolved*, That all Bills which shall have been committed to one of the said Standing Committees, shall, when reported to the House, be proceeded with as if they had been reported from a Committee of the whole House: Provided, That the provisions of the Standing Order (Consideration of a Bill, as amended), shall not apply to a Bill reported to the House by a Standing Committee.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

II. *Standing Committees.*

RESOLUTION 5 (DURATION OF RESOLUTIONS).

MR. DODSON moved the 5th Resolution, to the effect—

“That the four preceding Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House until the end of the next Session of Parliament.”

The four Resolutions in question were those relating to the Standing Committees.

Motion made, and Question proposed, “That the four preceding Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House until the end of the next Session of Parliament.”—(*Mr. Dodson.*)

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, he hoped that the Government would give the House an opportunity of considering the operation of the Standing Committees before the end of next Session. He thought they were entitled to a pledge from the Government that there would be a *bond fide* discussion on the subject some considerable time before the end of the Session.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, that, as far as he could judge, there would be no indisposition on the part of the Government to give the House an opportunity of discussing the operation of these Committees. If, as he trusted, the present experiment was successful, the Government would probably ask the House to renew the experiment, and, perhaps, extend its operation. He had no hesitation whatever in saying that such a proposal ought to be brought forward in proper time, when the House could thoroughly discuss it. If, contrary to the expectations of the Government, the experiment should prove unsuccessful, then no proposal would be made to renew the Resolutions. He thought that, under those circumstances, it might be left to some independent Member to raise the question. If the experiment were a failure, it would, in his opinion, not be necessary to discuss it, for it would be abandoned. He could assure the House that if it were proposed to renew or extend the experiment steps would be taken at such a time that the House would have a full opportunity of discussing the matter.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, that, while recognizing the conciliatory tone of the remarks of the noble Marquess, he thought that the House ought to have some more clear and precise information as to the time when this matter would be discussed next Session. The noble Lord said that if the Government thought the scheme a success, they would propose to renew it for the ensuing Session, and that due Notice would be given of such proposal. But the House was in the hands of the Government as to what constituted due Notice.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, that his statement was that if a

proposal for renewal were made, it should be made in good time, so that the House could discuss it.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, that they wanted to know what was "good time." They ought to have a definite assurance from the Government that a proposal to renew the Grand Committee scheme should not be made when half the House had disappeared. He hoped the Government would insert some words in the Resolution which would commit the Government to a definite undertaking that the proposition to renew the Resolution should be discussed in good time.

MR. WHITBREAD said, he thought it would be reasonable if the Government were to promise that the discussion on the renewal of the Grand Committee scheme should not be commenced later than some day in July.

MR. GIBSON said, that these last Resolutions had received very rapid and summary consideration. He was opposed, however, to accepting the mere statement of the intentions of the Government; and, in order to give the Government an opportunity of stating their views, he would move to omit the words "end of the next Session of Parliament," and insert the words "on the 15th of July, 1883." That would be more clear and precise.

Amendment proposed,

To leave out the words "end of the next Session of Parliament," and insert the words "fifteenth of July, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three,"—(*Mr. Gibson*),—instead thereof.

Question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON said, it did not appear to him that the Amendment moved would necessarily effect the purpose, and might be extremely inconvenient, as it might have the effect of cutting short the proceedings of the Standing Committees. All it was possible for him to say was, that he would represent to the Prime Minister and his Colleagues the conciliatory manner in which the Resolutions had been received by the House, and that it was his opinion that the view of the House was that, if it was proposed to renew the Resolutions, either in their present or any other shape, it ought to

be done when the House was in a condition to fully and adequately discuss them; and he would make every effort in his power to secure that that should take place before the end of the month of July.

LORD JOHN MANNERS said, he thought the matter would be met best by inserting these words in the Resolution:—"Provided that the Motion for their renewal shall not be made later than the 15th July."

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL said, it was quite possible that the conciliatory spirit which had prevailed that night might not exist until the end of July next; indeed, it was quite possible the present Government might not then be in Office. However, he thought it was not worth while to prolong the discussion after what had been said by the noble Marquess, and he hoped the Amendment would not be pressed.

MR. GIBSON asked leave to withdraw his Amendment. He did so on account of the conciliatory spirit in which the Government had received his suggestion, and in deference to the statement of the noble Marquess, that any attempt to renew the Resolution would be made before the third week in July.

Amendment, by leave, *withdrawn*.

Main Question put.

(5.) *Resolved*, That the four preceding Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House until the end of the next Session of Parliament.

Standing Orders, as amended, to be *printed*.

QUESTIONS.

SPAIN—INTERNATIONAL LAW—SURRENDER OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, If he had received a further telegram from Gibraltar, or if he had any information as to whether the ladies who accompanied General Maceo and his companions to Gibraltar were sent out of the territory by the police, or at their own request?

MR. EVELYN ASHLEY said, he had received a telegram, in which it was stated that Constable Solomon had deposed in evidence that the wife and sister of Maceo begged to be allowed to remain in Gibraltar; that Chief Inspector Blair

did not know the relationship, and did not inquire who the women were.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL asked if an opportunity would be afforded to-morrow for answering the Question he had put down for Monday?

[No answer was given to the Question.]

House adjourned at a quarter before
Nine o'clock till To-morrow.

HOUSE OF LORDS,

Saturday, 2nd December, 1882.

EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION — VOTE OF THANKS TO HER MAJESTY'S NAVAL AND MILITARY FORCES.

SIR G. J. WOLSELEY'S LETTER.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR acquainted the House, That he had received a letter from General Sir Garnet J. Wolseley, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., in return to the Thanks of this House and to the resolutions of the 26th of October last, communicated to him in obedience to an Order of this House of the said date. The letter was as follows:—

"I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordships' letter of the 27th of October, enclosing a Vote of Thanks passed by the House of Lords on the 26th of October 1882, as to the recent naval and military operations in Egypt. I beg to acquaint your Lordships that it will afford me the greatest satisfaction to convey the same in accordance with the Resolution of your Lordships' House to the officers especially mentioned, and to the officers and men who served under my command in the recent campaign.

"I have the honour to be

"Your Lordships' obedient servant,

"G. J. WOLSELEY, Lieutenant-General."

The said letter was ordered to lie on the Table, and to be entered on the Journals.

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT— HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

The PARLIAMENT was this day prorogued by Commission.

The LORDS COMMISSIONERS—namely, The LORD CHANCELLOR; The EARL

Mr. Evelyn Ashley

GRANVILLE (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs); The EARL OF KIMBERLEY (Secretary of State for the Colonies); The LORD CARRINGTON; and The LORD MONSON—being in their Robes, and seated on a Form between the Throne and the Woolsack; and the Commons being come, with their Speaker—

THE LORD CHANCELLOR, pursuant to Her Majesty's Command, *delivered* HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH, as follows:—

"*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

"AFTER a Session of remarkable duration, I am at length enabled to bring your labours to a close.

"I continue to hold relations of cordial amity with all Foreign Powers.

"The commercial negotiations with France, which were proceeding in the month of February, did not result in the conclusion of a Treaty. But the Government and Legislature of that country have pursued an enlightened policy; and there has not, in consequence, been any general falling-off in the dealings between the two countries, which at once promote their material well-being and strengthen the bonds of friendship now happily uniting them.

"The operations in Egypt, both naval and military, which a wise liberality enabled me to conduct upon an adequate scale, and which were prosecuted with such energy and fidelity in all the departments, were brought to an early and successful issue.

"I take this opportunity of placing upon record my gratitude to the able officers who commanded by sea and land, and to the victorious forces, of which my Indian army supplied a distinguished part.

"The recent events in Egypt have enhanced my obligations in regard to its affairs, of which I spoke to you at the beginning of your protracted Session.

"I shall study to discharge my duties in such a manner as to maintain international engagements, to uphold and consolidate the privileges which have been successively acquired, to promote the happiness of the people and the 'prudent development of their institutions,' and to avoid any measure which might tend towards disturbing the tranquillity of the East.

"And I feel confident that my aims, and the result of my counsels, will commend themselves to the approval of the Powers, my allies, in their several relations to that interesting region.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"I thank you for the supplies which you have granted me to meet the various and extended wants of the public service.

"My Lords, and Gentlemen,

"After a succession of unfavourable seasons in the greater portion of the United Kingdom, the produce of the land has, during the present year, been for the most part abundant, and trade is moderately active.

"The growth of the revenue, however, is sensibly retarded by a cause which must in itself be contemplated with satisfaction; I refer to the diminution in the receipts of the Exchequer from the duties on intoxicating liquors.

"In some parts of Ireland I am compelled to anticipate distress during the approaching winter.

"I have also to record with deep pain that the horrible crime of assassination has been rife in the Metropolitan City of Dublin; and there is a special call of duty upon the Execu-

tive authority to exercise with fidelity and firmness the powers with which it has been entrusted.

"In the social condition of the country at large, however, I have the satisfaction of noting that there has been a marked improvement; and the law has acted with renewed vigour under the provisions you have devised. I have an earnest hope that this improvement will be maintained and extended.

"I am indebted to your wisdom for having passed the measures which I deemed indispensable for restoring the supremacy of the law in Ireland, and for removing impediments to the wide and progressively enlarged action of the Land Act of 1881.

"You have also passed a variety of measures from which, in their several spheres of operation, I anticipate much advantage to my people.

"I could, indeed, have desired to congratulate you at the present time on your having been able to meet the wants of the country for practical and effective legislation on many well-known and weighty subjects, of high interest to large portions of the community, some of which I commended to your notice at the opening of the Session.

"After the recess, you will resume your labours under circumstances which, I trust, may prove more favourable to their accomplishment than those of the current year; and I rely with confidence on your energy and wisdom for the discharge, under the Divine blessing, of the arduous responsibilities which must ever attach to the Parliament of my Empire."

Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which,

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said—

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Thursday the fifteenth day of February next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the fifteenth day of February next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Saturday, 2nd December, 1882.

The House met at Four of the clock.

QUESTIONS.

INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL asked the President of the Local Government Board, Whether a Memorial, of the date of March, 1881, from Her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories, respecting salaries and allowances, was received by the Home Office; whether any reply was made to that Memorial; and, if not, whether he will explain the reason; and whether the contents of that Memorial have yet received the consideration of the Department, and what are his intentions with respect to the grievances set forth in the document?

MR. DODSON: Sir, the Memorial referred to was duly received; but it has not been practicable as yet to make any definite reply thereto, as the suggestions required careful examination, which, owing to various unavoidable causes, it was impossible to conclude in time to admit of proposals being made to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury for the last financial year. The Secretary of State is now in communication with the Treasury, and trusts soon to be in a position to return an answer to the Memorialists.

LICENSING ACTS—SALE OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS DURING CHRISTMAS WEEK.

MR. WHITWORTH asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whether his attention has been called to the fact that it has been the practice in certain boroughs and cities, such as Sheffield and Norwich, for the magistrates to grant an extension of hours for the sale of intoxicating liquors, during the whole or part of the Christmas week, to all publicans applying for the same, and without regard to the position and neighbourhood of the public houses; whether it is necessary for the applicants to apply separately for an extension, under the twenty-ninth section of the 35th and 36th Vic. c. 94; and, whether Christmas week is a "special occasion," under the said section, justifying the magistrates in granting general extension to all publicans?

MR. DODSON: Sir, the attention of the Secretary of State has not been called to the matter referred to; and he has not had the opportunity of considering what the true interpretation of the Statute may be in regard to the various legal points raised.

SPAIN — INTERNATIONAL LAW—SURRENDER OF CUBAN REFUGEES.

MR. O'KELLY asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, If he could state whether Colonel Maceo capitulated to the Spanish Forces at Guantanamo in June 1880; whether the capitulation took place in the presence of the British and French Vice Consuls for Guantanamo, in accordance with a previous agreement between the Spanish and Cuban Commanders; whether the British and French Vice Consuls took part in the act of capitulation as the guarantors of the carrying out in good faith of the terms on which the surrender of the Cuban Force was arranged; whether, under the terms of surrender, General Maceo and a number of his companions were permitted to embark on board the merchant steamer "Thomas Brooks;" whether, at the time of the embarkation of General Maceo and his companions, the steamer "Thomas Brooks" was flying the British flag astern; whether the "Thomas Brooks," having proceeded to sea, was followed

and overhauled by a Spanish gunboat, and General Maceo and his companions made prisoners, and conducted to Porto Rico, in violation of the terms of their surrender; and, whether the steamer "Thomas Brooks" is the property of an English subject; and, if not, whether the Government will inquire into the circumstances attending the use of the British flag on the occasion of the embarkation of General Maceo and his companions?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE, in reply, said, that, with regard to the first part of the Question, there was no information at the Foreign Office as to the date of this particular capitulation; but in July, 1880, the Acting Consul General at Guantanamo reported that he thought the insurrection had virtually terminated. They knew nothing of a capitulation having taken place in presence of the British and French Vice Consuls. With regard to the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh paragraphs of the Question, the Government knew nothing at all. They had never heard of the ship called the *Thomas Brooks*, or of any facts relating to that question.

MR. O'KELLY asked whether the Government would undertake to inquire into the truth of the statements in question.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, that the Government had no evidence before them; but if the hon. Member would supply him with any evidence on the matter the Government would see whether it was necessary to make inquiries.

MR. O'KELLY said, he would take an opportunity of placing certain information on the subject in the hon. Baronet's hands.

SIR H. DRUMMOND WOLFF asked the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any application had been made by Her Majesty's Government to the Government of Spain for the release of General Maceo and the other Cuban refugees?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, that, under the circumstances stated on Friday by his hon. Friend the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, no such application had yet been made to the Spanish Government; but the Report from the Commission of Inquiry had been referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

EGYPT—ARABI PASHA.

MR. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT asked whether the Government had received any information as to the statement which had appeared in the newspapers that the trial of Arabi Pasha would come to an end at once, he being exiled, but retaining his rank and sword?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: I have received no information on the subject since I answered a similar Question yesterday.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON wished to put to the hon. Baronet a Question of which he had given him private Notice—namely, Whether he had noticed, in the correspondence of the "Standard" of that day, a statement to the effect that there was not an atom of direct or documentary evidence to connect Arabi Pasha with the riot at Alexandria on the 11th of June; and whether the hon. Baronet would take any steps either to sustain or withdraw the charge which he had brought against Arabi in the House of Commons of complicity in the riot at Alexandria?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE: The only words I ever used in this House in regard to the riots at Alexandria on the 11th of June are perfectly justified by the intelligence in the hands of the Government.

SIR WILFRID LAWSON said, that the words which the hon. Baronet was reported to have used were to the effect that he had no doubt that Arabi Pasha was one of the leaders who had been guilty of complicity in the attack on the Europeans at Alexandria on the 11th of June.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, his words were that there was grave reason to suppose that he had been guilty of complicity in the riot.

MR. MOLLOY asked whether the Government had received any information from Lord Dufferin about the trial of Arabi Pasha?

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, the Question was so vague that he could not give an answer to it.

EGYPT—USE OF THE "KURBASH."

MR. CALLAN gave Notice that on the first day of next Session he should ask a Question, which, perhaps, the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs might answer at once. It was, Whether

his attention had been called to a statement in the "*Contemporary Review*" of last month, to the effect that Mr. Roussell had recorded his opinion that the Kurbash was a necessary instrument of government in dealing with a Native population; and whether the Government had in consequence intimated to Mr. Roussell their disapproval of his conduct? The hon. Member also took occasion to complain of the manner in which the Clerks of the House had dealt with the Notice of a Question which he had given on Friday, and which Mr. Speaker had declared to be in Order.

SIR CHARLES W. DILKE said, he had not seen the article referred to in *The Contemporary Review*.

CRIMINAL LAW—PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS.

SIR GEORGE CAMPBELL asked Mr. Attorney General, If any Report and Returns showing the working of the system of public prosecution for England, sanctioned by the last Parliament, was accessible to Members of the House, or would be laid upon the Table?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (SIR HENRY JAMES) said, he was not aware of the existence of any such Return or Report. There were regulations on the subject which were accessible, and he should be glad to give the hon. Member any information in his power if he would communicate with him.

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT.

Message to attend The LORDS COMMISSIONERS:—

The House went;—

And afterwards Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech was delivered to both Houses of Parliament by the Lord High Chancellor (in pursuance of Her Majesty's Command).

Then a Commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which,

THE LORD CHANCELLOR said—

My Lords, and Gentlemen,

By virtue of Her Majesty's Commission, under the Great Seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in Her Majesty's Name, and in obedience to Her Commands, prorogue this Parliament to Thursday the fifteenth day of February next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the fifteenth day of February next.

[SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.]

APPENDIX.



THE IRISH LAND COMMISSION— OFFICIAL VALUERS.

The following is a revised Report of the Speech of Mr. J. N. RICHARDSON, M.P., in the Debate on the withdrawal of the Court Valuers:—

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Tuesday, 28th November, 1882.

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON said, he regretted very much that more of his Colleagues were not present to hear the very gratifying statement which had been made by the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary for Ireland (Mr. Trevelyan), and to express their acknowledgments on behalf of their constituents to Her Majesty's Government. Hon. Gentlemen upon the Conservative Benches had, during the debate, complained that it had been sprung upon them, because of the announcement of his right hon. Friend having been made sooner than was expected. Well, even if they had any grounds of complaint, his (Mr. Richardson's) hon. Colleagues from Ulster had been taken at a short pinch just as much as they. Most of them wished to have been there. Some of them had only gone for a few days, and had intended to return for that debate; whereas now, he and his hon. Friend the Member for Donegal (Mr. Lea) were left alone to do the best they could. He had listened with his usual interest to the able speech of the right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite

(Mr. Gibson). With his accustomed eloquence the right hon. and learned Gentleman had appealed to that House for justice, and had stated "that all he wanted in the administration of the Land Act was fair, impartial, independent justice." Now, there he quite agreed with the right hon. and learned Gentleman, who, he apprehended, did not monopolize all the justice of the House. All he (Mr. Richardson) wanted himself in this matter was "fair, impartial, and independent justice;" and whenever the tenant farmers of Ulster called in that House for more than fair, impartial, and independent justice, they must seek for some other exponent of their views, for he would not consent to be their exponent. Now, he turned to the speech of the hon. Member for Leitrim (Mr. Tottenham). He could not say he had listened to that speech with surprise, for surprise had long since ceased to exist in his mind when the hon. Gentleman made statements in the House. He called the Sub-Commissioners "sub-confiscators"—he spoke of public plunder—and insinuated that these "sub-confiscators" placed their hands in other people's pockets. Now, the hon. Gentleman was not the sole Representative of property in the House, nor the only person interested in the ownership of land. He himself (Mr. Richardson) was also interested in the ownership of

land in Ireland, not so directly, perhaps, and not to so large an extent as the hon. Gentleman, but sufficiently to make him object to either public plunder or confiscation. And as soon as ever he believed that public plunder or confiscation was the object of the Sub-Commissioners he should cease to defend them. The right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Plunket), who spoke last, took exception to some portions of the speech of his right hon. Friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland which he delivered on October 3rd, upon the occasion of a deputation from the North of Ireland waiting upon him in connection with the subject of valuers. Now, he (Mr. Richardson) had the honour of introducing that deputation, and had upon that occasion listened to every word which fell from his right hon. Friend; and, further, had taken the trouble of reading the report of that speech again—only a few hours ago—and his belief was, that the isolated portions of the speech, if taken by themselves, might—"might, remember"—be made to bear the construction placed upon them by the right hon. and learned Gentleman. Yet, taking the speech as a whole, it would not bear that construction. The construction which the right hon. and learned Gentleman (Mr. Plunket) wished to put upon the speech was, that the Chief Secretary for Ireland was prepared to give way to pressure. Now, the impression which that speech, as he (Mr. Richardson) listened to it, carried to his mind was simply this—that the valuers were appointed as an experiment. That experiment was to endeavour to expedite procedure in the Land Courts; and if it were apparent that procedure was not hastened, then an alteration would be made. Now, the Prime Minister had stated that night that the appointment of valuers had not sensibly increased the number of cases heard, or fair rents fixed, and had not diminished the plethora of business in the Land Courts. Therefore, that was a perfectly sufficient reason for altering the procedure, and going back to the old lines; and, therefore, the whole gravamen of the charges brought against the Government by the various speakers opposite practically resolved itself into this—that the Government had given way to clamour. Now, if they would use the words "constitutionally expressed public sentiment," it would more properly de-

scribe the matter than "clamour"; and if there were any strong sentiment raised, especially among the sturdy farmers of the North, against the attachment of valuers to the Courts, hon. Gentlemen opposite had themselves to thank for it. It arose from the action of the Conservative Party and their attitude with respect to the Land Act from the commencement. The Act had not been long in existence when a meeting of landlords was convened in Dublin, and ridiculous statements were bandied about respecting the incompetency of the Sub-Commissioners. Ridiculous stories were invented of a Sub-Commissioner poking his stick into the ground and looking at it, afterwards saying 15s. an acre. Shortly afterwards there followed the proposal in "another place" to appoint a Committee of Inquiry on the Land Act, and a noble Lord stated that the object of the Committee was to revolutionize the administration of the Land Act.

SIR R. ASSHETON CROSS rose to Order. Was it in Order to quote debates which had taken place in the other House of Parliament?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. LYON PLAYFAIR): Not in the same Session.

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON said, that if he were out of Order he would at once bow to the decision of the Chair; but he believed he was not out of Order. He had used the usual expression "another place"—and would continue to use that line of argument unless prevented by the Chair. He was sorry to have to allude to those matters again, but must do so to get at his point. When he reached Ireland he heard the expression—"Revolutionize the administration of the Land Act," made use of again and again; and it gave rise to a sentiment which was only allayed by the spirited action of the Government refusing to have anything to do with the Lords' Committee; and then, having, thanks to the spirited action of the Government, failed in their attack along the whole line, the Party opposite opened a system of what might be termed guerilla warfare in that House and outside of it. Questions were asked and insinuations made respecting special Sub-Commissioners, regarding their character and their competence. The hon. Gentleman (Mr. Tottenham) had not been guiltless in this matter. He had

specially alluded to one of the Sub-Commissioners, a Mr. Garland, whom he termed an "ex-publican;" but, in making that allusion, he had been careful not to mention that the gentleman in question retired from the position of publican seven years previously, because he did not wish to have his family connected with it; that he was recommended by the Catholic Primate and the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church; that he was a tenant farmer, and, by marriage settlements, a landlord; that he was recommended by a deputy lieutenant of the county and seven magistrates; and that he had been complimented by Captain Gibson, brother of the right hon. and learned Gentleman opposite, upon the manner in which he had carried out the work of fixing fair rents. But the strong sentiment of the tenants found expression again when they found that another class of persons called valuers were to be attached to the Sub-Commissioners. The objections were three-fold. In the first place, the tenant farmers complained that these appointments were a breach of faith; and they were justified in that opinion by calling to mind that, after the passing of the Land Act, every device was offered in some parts of Ireland to induce tenants not to avail themselves of the Land Act. A document was sent to him (Mr. Richardson) the other day containing the following words:—"Hold your harvest. Pay no rent. Avoid the Land Court."

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: What is the date of it?

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON said, he really did not know.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR: Was it not a year ago?

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON: Precisely; about a year ago. That illustrated his point.

MR. O'KELLY: Was it not issued on account of the suppression of the Land League?

MR. J. N. RICHARDSON said, he did not know. The hon. Gentleman knew more of these matters than he did. Notwithstanding what he must call that dangerous and pernicious advice, 32,000 Ulster tenants—or about half the number who had applied from all Ireland—sent applications into the Land Court, and the applications which came from other parts of Ireland were

mainly owing to the example set by the Ulster tenants. The argument, therefore, of the Ulster tenants was that 32,000 of them sent in notices, on the promise of a fair rent being fixed according to a certain form of procedure; and it was unfair to alter the procedure after those notices were sent, because such notices could not be withdrawn without the consent of the opposing party by the change in the procedure. The Ulster tenants maintained that a breach of faith had been committed with them. That was their own expression. Well, another objection which he had to the attachment of valuers to the Land Courts was the inevitable friction and consequent delay—this he might say had struck him from the first. The valuers, whilst of the Commission, were not in it. They were an "*imperium in imperio*"—they gave their report separately from the decision of the Sub-Commissioners—and what was the result? The result was that if the value placed upon a certain farm by the valuator's report were higher than the fair rent fixed by the Sub-Commissioners, there was every inducement given to the landlord to appeal, and contrariwise. In case the valuator's report was lower than the fair rent fixed, the tenant had an inducement to appeal—whereas, if, for the sake of peace, the Sub-Commissioners adopted the valuator's valuation, then, practically, the valuer was master of the position. Another objection was, the very name of valuator was fraught in the minds of the tenants with evil associations; for, in times now gone by, before the Prime Minister had thrown his protection over the tenantry by his Acts of 1870 and 1881, the valuator was part and parcel of the machinery by which, in old times, the rent was screwed up to an unfair point. The transfer of property from any of the old and generous propriety of Ireland to a greedy speculator was generally the signal for a visit from a functionary known as an "impartial valuator." Reasonably or unreasonably, the term "valuator" was synonymous in the minds of the tenants with that of "rent raiser"—the expression was not his, it was one in common use; and his hon. Friend the Member for Tyrone (Mr. Dickson) was not to be blamed, as he had been that night, for using on a public platform a term which

was one in common use. It might be objected that this was all sentiment, and that this objection was a sentimental objection—well, sentiment could not be altogether ignored. The hon. Member for Londonderry (Mr. Lewis), when he went down to address his constituents, did not always come away without addressing himself to certain sentiments which abode in and around that city. If the right hon. Gentleman the Leader of the Opposition (Sir Stafford Northcote), whose absence from that House he (Mr. Richardson) regretted as much as any there—if he had been enabled by the state of his health to visit Belfast as was expected—and though he quite disagreed

with the right hon. Gentleman in politics, he should be glad to see the North of Ireland visited by a great statesman—if he had been able to pay this visit, he certainly, in any speech or speeches which he might have delivered, would not ignore the sentiments, and even the prejudices there. In conclusion, he thanked Her Majesty's Government for the course they had adopted in this matter, and sincerely hoped that the algebraical prophecy of the Prime Minister would be amply fulfilled—that the operations of the Land Courts would be so greatly hastened as to render X plus X and a quarter equal to Y square.

TABLE OF ALL THE STATUTES

PASSED IN THE THIRD SESSION OF
THE TWENTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

45 & 46 VICTORIA.—A.D. 1882.

PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS.

1. **A**N Act to apply the sum of Three hundred and thirteen thousand two hundred and seventy pounds out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.
2. An Act to authorise the use of Reply Post Cards.
3. An Act to amend the Law relating to the use of Gunpowder in Slate Mines.
4. An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the years ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two, and one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.
5. An Act to enable Her Majesty to provide for the Establishment of His Royal Highness the Duke of Albany and Her Serene Highness Princess Helen Frederica Augusta of Waldeck and Pyrmont, and to settle an Annuity on Her Serene Highness.
6. An Act to amend the law in regard to householders under the General Police and Improvement Acts in Scotland.
7. An Act to provide, during twelve months, for the Discipline and Regulation of the Army.
8. An Act to apply the sum of nine million two hundred and eighty-two thousand four hundred and thirty-five pounds out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.
9. An Act to amend the Documentary Evidence Act, 1868, and other enactments relating to the evidence of documents by means of copies printed by the Government Printers.
10. An Act for making provision for facilitating the Manœuvres of Troops to be assembled during the present Summer.
11. An Act to amend the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867.
12. An Act to amend the Law relating to the application of moneys arising from the sale of Militia Storehouses.
13. An Act for the Improvement of Arklow Harbour.
14. An Act to confer further powers upon the Metropolitan Board of Works with respect to Streets and Buildings in the Metropolis.
15. An Act to provide for the better application of Moneys paid by way of Compensation for the compulsory acquisition of Common Lands and extinguishment of Rights of Common.
16. An Act to amend the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act, 1874.
17. An Act for the transfer of Property in Ireland held for the Service of Her Majesty's Customs and of the Inland Revenue to the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland; and for other purposes relating thereto.
18. An Act to regulate the procedure of School Boards in Scotland in the dismissal of Teachers.
19. An Act to amend the law relating to the interment of any person found *felo de se*.
20. An Act to amend the Poor Rate Assessment and Collection Act, 1869.
21. An Act to amend the Places of Worship Sites Act, 1873.

22. An Act to make better provision for Inquiries with regard to Boiler Explosions.
23. An Act to extend the Public Health Act, 1875, to the making of Byelaws for Fruit Pickers.
24. An Act to amend the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Act, 1851.
25. An Act for the prevention of Crime in Ireland.
26. An Act to amend the Law relating to the Election of Lords Temporal to serve in Parliament for Ireland.
27. An Act to extend certain Provisions of the Poor Rate Assessment and Collection Act, 1869, to the Highway Rate, and for other purposes.
28. An Act to apply the sum of five million seven hundred and three thousand eight hundred and ninety-one pounds out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.
29. An Act to amend the Acts relating to the County Courts in Ireland, and to make better provision for Appeals under the said Acts.
30. An Act to amend the Baths and Wash Houses Acts.
31. An Act to render Judgments obtained in certain Inferior Courts in England, Scotland, and Ireland respectively, effectual in any other part of the United Kingdom.
32. An Act for the acquisition of Property and the provision of new Buildings for the Admiralty and War Office.
33. An Act further to amend the Acts relating to the raising of Money by the Metropolitan Board of Works; and for other purposes.
34. An Act to amend "The Beer Dealers' Retail Licences Act, 1890."
35. An Act to amend so much of "The Friendly Societies Act, 1875," as relates to quinquennial returns of sickness and mortality.
36. An Act to amend the Pauper Inmates Discharge and Regulation Act, 1871.
37. An Act to amend the Law respecting the obtaining of Corn Returns.
38. An Act for facilitating Sales, Leases, and other dispositions of Settled Land, and for promoting the execution of Improvements thereon.
39. An Act for further improving the Practice of Conveyancing; and for other purposes.
40. An Act to amend the law of Copyright relating to Musical Compositions.
41. An Act to grant certain Duties of Customs and Inland Revenue, to alter other Duties, and to amend the Laws relating to Customs and Inland Revenue.
42. An Act to amend the Law relating to Civil Imprisonment in Scotland.
43. An Act to amend the Bills of Sale Act, 1878.
44. An Act to authorise the Commutation of a portion of a Pension in pursuance of the Pensions Commutation Act, 1871.
45. An Act to make provision for the transfer of the Assets and Liabilities of the Provident Branch of the Bombay Civil Fund and other funds to the Secretary of State for India in Council.
46. An Act to amend the Isle of Man (Officers) Act, 1876.
47. An Act to make provision respecting certain Arrears of Rent in Ireland.
48. An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Reserve Forces.
49. An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Militia.
50. An Act for consolidating, with Amendments, enactments relating to Municipal Corporations in England and Wales.
51. An Act to extend the Acts relating to the purchase of small Government Annuities and to assuring payments of money on death.
52. An Act to continue certain Turnpike Acts, and to repeal certain other Turnpike Acts; and for other purposes connected therewith.
53. An Act to amend the Law of Entail in Scotland.
54. An Act to amend the Artizans and Labourers Dwellings Acts.
55. An Act to amend the Law with respect to the Charges on and Payments to the Mercantile Marine Fund, and to expenses of Prosecutions for Offences committed at Sea.
56. An Act to facilitate and regulate the supply of Electricity for Lighting and other purposes in Great Britain and Ireland.
57. An Act to amend the law relating to Costs and Salaries in County Courts.
58. An Act to amend the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1876; and for other purposes.
59. An Act to reorganise the Educational Endowments of Scotland.
60. An Act to amend and extend the provisions of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, relating to Labourers Cottages and Allotments.
61. An Act to codify the law relating to Bills of Exchange, Cheques, and Promissory Notes.
62. An Act to grant Money for the purpose of Loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners and the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland and the Irish Land Commission; and for other purposes relating to Loans by those Commissioners.
63. An Act to amend the Acts regulating the pay of certain officers of the Royal Irish Constabulary Force, and for other purposes connected therewith.
64. An Act to continue various expiring Laws.
65. An Act to make provision respecting certain Prison Charities.
66. An Act to amend the Law relating to Licences to retail Intoxicating Liquors on Passenger Vessels in Scotland.
67. An Act to further amend the Law relating to Turnpike Roads in South Wales.
68. An Act to suspend for a limited period, on account of Corrupt Practices, the holding of an Election of a Member or Members to serve in Parliament for certain cities and boroughs.
69. An Act to amend the Intermediate Education (Ireland) Act, 1878.
70. An Act to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act (Ireland), 1877.
71. An Act to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Fund to the service of the year ending on the thirty-first day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, and to appropriate the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament.

72. An Act for amending the Laws relating to Customs and Inland Revenue, and Postage and other Stamps, and for making further provision respecting the National Debt and charges payable out of the public revenue or by the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt; and for other purposes.
73. An Act for the better protection of Ancient Monuments.
74. An Act to amend the Post Office Acts with respect to the Conveyance of Parcels.
75. An Act to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to the Property of Married Women.
76. An Act to amend the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 to 1880, with respect to Colonial Courts of Inquiry.
77. An Act to amend the Law of Citation in Scotland.
78. An Act to establish a Fishery Board for Scotland.
79. An Act to make provision for the arrangement of Accounts between the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury and the Secretary of State in Council of India in respect of certain Home Charges for Her Majesty's Forces serving in India.
80. An Act for the extension of Allotments.
81. An Act for disannexing the Rectory of Somersham from the office of Regius Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, and for making better provision for the cure of Souls within the said Rectory; and for other purposes.
82. An Act for amending the Lunacy Regulation Acts.

The Acts contained in the following List, being PUBLIC ACTS of a Local Character, are placed amongst the LOCAL AND PERSONAL ACTS.

- i. **A**N Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Board of Trade under the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act, 1862, relating to the pilotage of the River Tees.
- iii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Act, 1863, and the Acts amending the same relating to Cahermone District.
- iv. An Act to confirm Schemes under the Metropolitan Commons Act, 1866, and the Metropolitan Commons Amendment Act, 1869, relating respectively to Acton Commons, Chiswick and Turnham Green Commons, and Tottenham Commons.
- xxvi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878, relating to the county of Kent.
- xxvii. An Act to confirm the Provisional Orders for the regulation of certain lands known as Crosby Garrett Common, in the parish of Crosby Garrett, in the county of Westmoreland; and for the regulation of certain lands known as Stivichall Common, in the parish of St. Michael, Coventry, in the county of Warwick.
- xxviii. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of certain lands known as Arkleside Common, situate in the Parish of Coverham, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, in pursuance of a Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales.
- xxix. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of certain lands known as Bettws Disserth Common, situate in the Parish of Bettws Disserth, in the County of Radnor, in pursuance of a Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales.
- xxx. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of certain lands known as Cefn Drawen Common, situate in the Parish of Glaschw, in the county of Radnor, in pursuance of a Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales.
- xxxi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the Bangor Gas Undertaking.
- xxxii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the towns of Ballymena, Clonmel, Fermoy, and Letterkenny.
- xxxiii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the City and County of Bristol, the Local Government District of Bromley, the Port of Cardiff, the Rural Sanitary District of the Glendale Union, the Borough of Hastings, the Local Government District of Merthyr Tydfil, the Boroughs of Newport (Monmouthshire) and Portsmouth, the Local Government District of Sandal Magna, and the Rural Sanitary District of the Ware Union.
- xxxiv. An Act to confirm certain Orders of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1876, as amended and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, relating to the Parishes of Barmbrough, Burghwallis, Coleshill, Conisbrough, Forrest Hill, Hickleton, Inglesham, Kirk Bramwith, Kirk Sandall and Trumfleet, Shotover, and Shotover Hill Place, and to the Townships of Adwick-le-Street, Askern, Barnby-upon-Don

- or Barnby Dunn, Campsall, Dalton, Ecclefield, Helmington Row, Langthwaite-with-Tilts, Mexbrough, Moss, Owston, Thorpe-in-Bulno, and Willington.
- lviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Eyemouth, Greenock, and Rothesay.
- lix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Artizans and Labourers Dwellings Improvement Act, 1875, relating to the Borough of Nottingham.
- lx. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the City and Borough of Bath, the Local Government District of Brierley Hill, the Borough of Burton-upon-Trent, the Rural Sanitary District of the Keighley Union, the Boroughs of Margate, Newbury, and Preston, the Town of Ramsgate, the Borough of Saint Helens, and the Rural Sanitary District of the Settle Union.
- lxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Birmingham (two), the Local Government Districts of Gainsborough, Smethwick, and South Blyth, the Borough of Stafford, the Staines Joint Hospital District, the Improvement Act District of Surbiton, the Uxbridge Joint Hospital District, the Local Government District of Watford, and the Borough of Wigan.
- lxii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Rural Sanitary District of the Billericay Union, the City and County of Bristol, the Local Government District of Compton Gifford, the Rural Sanitary District of the Farnham Union, the Local Government Districts of Hendon and Madron, the Borough of Nottingham, the Local Government Districts of Rusholme and Torquay, the Borough of Walsall, the Improvement Act District of West Bromwich, and the Local Government District of Worthing.
- lxiii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne, the Improvement Act District of Bethesda, the Local Government District of Heckmondwike, the Borough of Lewes, the Improvement Act District of Lytham, the Local Government District of Pemberton, the Borough of Rochdale, and the Local Government District of Sowerby Bridge.
- lxiv. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government Districts of Ealing, Edmonton, and Crompton, the Ports of Newcastle, North Shields, and South Shields, the Port of Plymouth, and the Local Government Districts of West Cowes and Woodford.
- lxv. An Act to confirm Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the towns of Ballina and Lurgan.
- lxvi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the City of Dublin and the Poor Law Union of Ballymoney.
- lxvii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Land Drainage Act, 1861, relating to Fenstanton Improvements, situate in the parish of Fenstanton, in the county of Huntingdon.
- lxviii. An Act to extend the Artillery Ranges Act, 1862.
- lxix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Ryde.
- lxx. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Great Yarmouth Tramways, Highgate Hill Tramways, Isle of Axholme and Marshland Tramways, North Shields and District Tramways Extension, Pontypidd and Rhondda Valley Tramways, Staffordshire Tramways (Extension), Sunderland Tramways (Extension), and Weston-super-Mare Tramways.
- lxxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Banbridge, Ennis, Larne, and Londonderry.
- lxxii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for providing that the Roads and Bridges (Scotland) Act, 1878, shall come into force in the county of Edinburgh on the 1st day of September 1882 subject to certain conditions.
- xcvii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Salford.
- xcviii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Workington.
- xcix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Brecon Gas, High Wycombe Gas, Kettering Gas, Portsea Gas, Redditch Gas, Salisbury Gas, and Sheffield Gas.
- c. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Calne Water, Cromer Water, Denbigh Water, and Kenilworth Water.
- ci. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Birmingham and Aston Tramways, Birmingham and Suburban Tramways, Birmingham and Western Districts Tramways, Manchester, Bury, and Rochdale Tramways (Extensions), and Walsall and District Tramways.
- cii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Boards for West Ham (Essex) and Terrington St. John (Norfolk) to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- ciii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Improvement Act Districts of Fleetwood and Rhyl and the City of York.
- cxxxviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Aldershot and Farnborough Tramways Amendment, Birkdale and Southport Tramways (Use of Mechanical Power), Bristol Tramways (Extensions), Burnley and District Tramways

- Extension, Leamington and Warwick Tramways, Manchester Carriage and Tramways Company, North Staffordshire Tramways, and Oldham Borough Tramways (Extensions).
- cxxxix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Boards for Finchley, Llanarth, and Upper Dylais to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- cxli. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Waterworks in the town of Queenstown.
- cxli. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Board for London to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- clxviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Bridlington, Broadstairs, Carnlough, Holywood, Johnshaven, Kettletoft, Penmaenmawr, Plymouth, Seabrook, Southend, Stonehaven, Weymouth, and Worthing (West).
- clxix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, and the Public Health Act, 1875, relating to the Local Government District of Upper Sedgley.
- clxx. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Bury (two), the Godalming Main Sewerage District, and the Local Government Districts of Marsden and Northwich.
- ccxxi. An Act to amend the Limerick Harbour (Composition of Debt) Act, 1867, in relation to Wallealey Bridge.

LOCAL ACTS.

*The Titles to which the Letter P. is prefixed are Public Acts
of a Local Character.*

- P. i.** **A**N Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Board of Trade under the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act, 1862, relating to the pilotage of the River Tees.
- ii.** An Act to enable the London and Saint Katherine Docks Company to raise further Money and to maintain their Railway from the North Woolwich Branch of the Great Eastern Railway to Galleons Reach and for other purposes.
- P. iii.** An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Drainage and Improvement of Lands (Ireland) Act, 1863, and the Acts amending the same relating to Cahermone District.
- P. iv.** An Act to confirm Schemes under the Metropolitan Commons Act, 1866, and the Metropolitan Commons Amendment Act, 1869, relating respectively to Acton Commons, Chiswick and Turnham Green Commons, and Tottenham Commons.
- v.** An Act to enable the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company to raise further Capital.
- vi.** An Act for granting further powers to the Maidstone Waterworks Company.
- vii.** An Act for enabling the Caledonian Railway Company to raise additional Money.
- viii.** An Act to revive the powers and extend the period for the compulsory purchase of lands and to extend the period for the completion of the Works authorised by the Bristol Port and Channel Dock Act 1877 and for other purposes.
- ix.** An Act for enabling the mayor and commonalty and citizens of the City of London to take lands with a view to the enlargement and improvement of the court house of the City of London Court and for other purposes.
- x.** An Act to authorise the sale of the existing Church of Saint Philip in the City of Liverpool and of the site thereof and purchase of a site for and the erection of a new church and to provide for the appointment of Trustees and other relative matters.
- xi.** An Act to transfer to the Local Board for the District of Fulwood in the County Palatine of Lancaster the Powers conferred by the Lancashire County Justices Act 1880 for constructing Waterworks and supplying Water to the Whittingham County Lunatic Asylum, and to authorise the Local Board to supply Water within their District and other Places, and to make further provisions in that behalf.
- xii.** An Act to confer further powers on the Abbotsbury Railway Company; to revive the powers and extend the period for the com-

- pulsory purchase of lands; for the construction of portions of the railway authorised by the Abbotsbury Railway Act, 1877; for making a diversion of part of their authorised line; and for other purposes.
- xiii. An Act to amend the Constitution of King's College London and for other purposes relating thereto.
- xiv. An Act to continue the Liability of the borough of Birkenhead to contribute to the Expenses of the Local Authority of the county of Chester under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts in the event of a grant of a separate Court of Quarter Sessions to the said borough.
- xv. An Act to authorise the Limavady and Dungiven Railway Company to acquire additional lands to confirm an agreement with the Skinners' Company to attach a preference to certain shares to authorise the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway Company to subscribe and lend further sums and to raise further capital and for other purposes.
- xvi. An Act to further extend the Time for the Completion of the Merionethshire Railway.
- xvii. An Act to consolidate and convert certain of the Shares and Stocks in the Capital of the Great North of Scotland Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- xviii. An Act to confer further powers on the Great North of Scotland Railway Company.
- xix. An Act to confer further powers on the Lord Provost, magistrates and council of the city and royal burgh of Glasgow; and for other purposes.
- xx. An Act to confer further powers on the Teign Valley Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- xxi. An Act for vesting the bridge at Sawley across the River Trent in the counties of Derby and Leicester commonly known as Harrington Bridge in the Trustees of the bridge at Shardlow across the said river in the said counties commonly known as Cavendish Bridge and for suspending the taking of toll upon the same and for other purposes.
- xxii. An Act for enabling the North-eastern Railway Company to construct a Railway from Alnwick to Cornhill in the county of Northumberland; and for other purposes.
- xxiii. An Act for enlarging the Powers of the Corporation of the Borough of Alnwick and for vesting in the Corporation the Forest of Aydon otherwise Haydon or Alnwick Moor in the County of Northumberland and for other purposes.
- xxiv. An Act for incorporating the Horncastle Water Company, and for better supplying with Water the Town of Horncastle, in the County of Lincoln, and the several places adjacent thereto; and for other purposes.
- xxv. An Act to extend the objects of the Agricultural Company of Mauritius, Limited, and its powers for the transaction of its business and investment of its moneys.
- P. xxvi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act, 1878, relating to the county of Kent.
- P. xxvii. An Act to confirm the Provisional Orders for the regulation of certain lands known as Crosby Garrett Common, in the parish of Crosby Garrett, in the county of Westmoreland; and for the regulation of certain lands known as Stivichall Common, in the parish of St. Michael, Coventry, in the county of Warwick.
- P. xxviii. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of certain lands known as Arkleside Common, situate in the Parish of Coverham, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, in pursuance of a Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales.
- P. xxix. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of certain lands known as Bettws Dissarth Common, situate in the Parish of Bettws Dissarth, in the County of Radnor, in pursuance of a Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales.
- P. xxx. An Act to confirm the Provisional Order for the inclosure of certain lands known as Cefn Drawn Common, situate in the Parish of Glaschwmm, in the County of Radnor, in pursuance of a Report of the Inclosure Commissioners for England and Wales.
- P. xxxi. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the Bangor Gas Undertaking.
- P. xxxii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the towns of Ballymena, Clonmel, Fermoy, and Letterkenny.
- P. xxxiii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the City and County of Bristol, the Local Government District of Bromley, the Port of Cardiff, the Rural Sanitary District of the Glendale Union, the Borough of Hastings, the Local Government District of Merthyr Tydfil, the Boroughs of Newport (Monmouthshire) and Portsmouth, the Local Government District of Sandal Magna, and the Rural Sanitary District of the Ware Union.
- P. xxxiv. An Act to confirm certain Orders of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Divided Parishes and Poor Law Amendment Act, 1876, as amended and extended by the Poor Law Act, 1879, relating to the Parishes of Barmbrough, Burghwallis, Coleshill, Conisbrough, Forrest Hill, Hickleton, Inglesham, Kirk Bramwith, Kirk Sandall and Trumflett, Shotover, and Shotover Hill Place, and to the Townships of Adwick-le-Street, Askern, Barnby-upon-Don or Barnby Dunn, Campsall, Dalton, Ecclesfield, Helmington Row, Langthwaite-with-Tilts, Mexbrough, Moss, Owston, Thorpe-in-Balne, and Willington.
- xxxv. An Act for conferring further powers on the Glasgow and South-western Railway Company for the construction of works the acquisition of lands and the raising of money and for other purposes.
- xxxvi. An Act for conferring further powers on the Millwall Dock Company and for other purposes.
- xxxvii. An Act for enabling the Local Board for the district of West Ham, in the county of Essex, to require payment of fees by persons constructing or altering buildings within their district, and extending the powers of the Board as to making byelaws with respect to pollution of water in dwelling-houses and

- factories, and as to ventilating and protecting dwellings from fire, and for other purposes.
- xxxviii. An Act to authorise the South Metropolitan Gas Company to purchase additional lands construct additional works enlarge their borrowing powers and amend their Acts.
- xxxix. An Act for providing for the Transfer of the Harbour of Portsoy by the Earl of Seafield for constructing new Harbour Works and for providing for the application of Alexander Rainy's Bequest towards the said Harbour and for other purposes.
- xl. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Bromsgrove Gas Company and for other purposes.
- xli. An Act for the abandonment of the Welshpool and Llanfair Railway the repayment of the money deposited for securing its completion and the dissolution of the Welshpool and Llanfair Railway Company.
- xlii. An Act for extending and amending the Constitution of the High School of Dundee; authorising the establishment, within the burgh of Dundee, of an additional Public School, under the management of the School Board of Dundee; and for confirming an Agreement between William Harris, Esquire, the High School Corporation and the School Board; and for other purposes.
- xliii. An Act for enabling the Dundee Water Commissioners to construct additional Works, and to create and issue Debenture Stock, and for other purposes.
- xliv. An Act for authorising the Callander and Oban Railway Company to raise additional capital; and for other purposes.
- xlv. An Act for extending the limits of supply of the South Essex Waterworks Company and for authorising that Company to construct further works and to raise further money and for other purposes.
- xlvi. An Act to authorise the Lower Thames Valley Main Sewerage Board to defray expenses incurred by them in relation to the promotion of a certain Bill in Parliament in the session of 1879.
- xlvii. An Act to enable the Dublin Wicklow and Wexford Railway Company to construct certain diversion railways of their authorised line and to confer further powers on the Company with reference to their undertaking and for other purposes.
- xlviii. An Act to enable the Moffat Railway Company to construct a railway to the Beattock Station of the Caledonian Railway Company and for other purposes.
- xliv. An Act to extend the time for the completion of the railway authorised by the Golden Valley Railway (Extension to Hay) Act, 1877; to authorise the Golden Valley Railway Company to issue preference shares and to borrow money for payment of debts.
- l. An Act for enabling the North-eastern Railway Company to make new Railways and for conferring additional Powers on the Company in relation to their Undertaking and for vesting in them the Undertaking of the Tees Valley Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- li. An Act for conferring further powers upon the Ipswich Tramways Company.
- lii. An Act for regulating the capital and making further provision for the management of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company.
- liii. An Act for enabling the Caledonian Railway Company to make railways and other works, and abandon authorised and existing works, in and near the city of Glasgow, to divert a road at Lochmaben, and to acquire lands and works in the counties of Stirling, Perth, and Renfrew; and for other purposes.
- liv. An Act to constitute and incorporate Commissioners for the management of Blyth Harbour in the county of Northumberland and to vest the harbour undertaking in them and empower them to construct additional works; and for other purposes.
- lv. An Act for authorising the Corporation of the city of Liverpool to execute certain street improvements and to acquire and appropriate land for the University College Liverpool; for amending various Local Acts in force in the city; and for conferring on the Corporation further powers in relation to the grant of superannuation allowances to their officers and other matters.
- lvi. An Act to confer various powers on the Metropolitan Board of Works and to amend certain Acts relating to that Board.
- lvii. An Act to authorise the Trustees of the Liverpool Bishopric Endowment Fund to acquire the Advowson of the Vicarage of Walton-on-the-Hill in the County of Lancaster and for other purposes.
- P. lviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Eyemouth, Greenock, and Rothesay.
- P. lix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Artizans and Labourers Dwellings Improvement Act, 1875, relating to the Borough of Nottingham.
- P. lx. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the City and Borough of Bath, the Local Government District of Brierley Hill, the Borough of Burton-upon-Trent, the Rural Sanitary District of the Keighley Union, the Boroughs of Margate, Newbury, and Preston, the Town of Ramsgate, the Borough of Saint Helens, and the Rural Sanitary District of the Settle Union.
- P. lxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Birmingham (two), the Local Government Districts of Gainsborough, Smethwick, and South Blyth, the Borough of Stafford, the Staines Joint Hospital District, the Improvement Act District of Surbiton, the Uxbridge Joint Hospital District, the Local Government District of Watford, and the Borough of Wigan.
- P. lxii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Rural Sanitary District of the Billericay Union, the City and County of Bristol, the Local Government District of

- Compton Gifford, the Rural Sanitary District of the Farnham Union, the Local Government Districts of Hendon and Madron, the Borough of Nottingham, the Local Government Districts of Rusholme and Torquay, the Borough of Walsall, the Improvement Act District of West Bromwich, and the Local Government District of Worthing.
- P. lxiii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne, the Improvement Act District of Bethesda, the Local Government District of Heckmondwike, the Borough of Lewes, the Improvement Act District of Lytham, the Local Government District of Pemberton, the Borough of Rochdale, and the Local Government District of Sowerby Bridge.
- P. lxiv. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government Districts of Ealing, Edmonton, and Crompton, the Ports of Newcastle, North Shields, and South Shields, the Port of Plymouth, and the Local Government Districts of West Cowes and Woodford.
- P. lxv. An Act to confirm Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the towns of Ballina and Lurgan.
- P. lxvi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to the City of Dublin and the Poor Law Union of Ballymoney.
- P. lxvii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order under the Land Drainage Act, 1861, relating to Fenstanton Improvements, situate in the parish of Fenstanton, in the county of Huntingdon.
- P. lxviii. An Act to extend the Artillery Ranges Act, 1862.
- P. lxix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Ryde.
- P. lxx. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Great Yarmouth Tramways, Highgate Hill Tramways, Isle of Axholme and Marshland Tramways, North Shields and District Tramways Extension, Pontypridd and Rhondda Valley Tramways, Staffordshire Tramways (Extension), Sunderland Tramways (Extension), and Weston-super-Mare Tramways.
- P. lxxi. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Banbridge, Ennis, Larne, and Londonderry.
- P. lxxii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for providing that the Roads and Bridges (Scotland) Act, 1878, shall come into force in the county of Edinburgh on the 1st day of September 1882 subject to certain conditions.
- lxxiii. An Act for shortening and improving the Railway Route from the authorised Forth Bridge Railway at Inverkeithing to the Edinburgh Perth and Dundee Railway near the Bridge of Earn Station; to transfer to the North British Railway Company the powers of the Forth Bridge Railway Company for making a Railway to Burntisland; to authorise an abandonment of part of that Railway and of another Railway and an extension of time for the compulsory purchase of land and completion of works; and for other purposes.
- lxxiv. An Act to extend the Powers of the Northampton Waterworks Company.
- lxxv. An Act to consolidate and amend the Constitution and Articles and Regulations of the Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society; to confer further powers on that Society; and for other purposes.
- lxxvi. An Act to authorise the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway Company to construct railways in substitution for portions of those authorised by the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway Act 1881; to abandon so much of the railways authorised by that Act as will be rendered unnecessary by reason of the construction of the substituted railways; to raise further capital; and for other purposes.
- lxxvii. An Act for making a railway to connect the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway with the Harbour of Carrickfergus; and for other purposes.
- lxxviii. An Act to amend the Newhaven Harbour Improvement Act 1878.
- lxxix. An Act to enable the Londonderry and Lough Swilly Railway Company to raise additional capital to confer further powers upon them in reference to their undertaking and for other purposes.
- lxxx. An Act to amend the law with respect to the rates to be levied within the ancient limits of the City of Bristol and the liberties thereof; and for other purposes.
- lxxxi. An Act for incorporating the Stroud Water Company and for conferring powers on that Company and for other purposes.
- lxxxii. An Act to amend the Acts relating to the Court Houses in the City of Glasgow.
- lxxxiii. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Northwich Gas Company.
- lxxxiv. An Act for reviving and rendering valid certain Letters Patent, granted to Francis Boyce Lecky and William Hugh Smyth, for improvements in the manufacture of soles, and in the machinery or apparatus employed therefor.
- lxxxv. An Act to extend the time for the completion of the railway authorised by the West Lancashire Railway Act 1871 and for other purposes.
- lxxxvi. An Act to re-incorporate with further powers the Rugby Gaslight and Coke Company Limited.
- lxxxvii. An Act to authorise the Commissioners of the Glasgow Corporation Waterworks to construct an additional Service Reservoir and other Works; and for other purposes.
- lxxxviii. An Act for empowering the London and North-western Railway Company, to construct a new Railway at Ordsall Lane in Manchester and for other purposes.
- lxxxix. An Act to authorise the construction of Street Tramways between Shoreham and Hove in the county of Sussex; and for other purposes.

- xc. An Act to authorise the East and West India Dock Company to extend their Dock system by constructing and maintaining a new Dock and other Works in connexion therewith in the parishes of Grays Thurrock, Little Thurrock, and Chadwell, all in the County of Essex.
- xc. An Act to enable the Edinburgh Street Tramways Company to make and maintain additional Tramways and to confer other powers upon the said Company.
- xcii. An Act to authorise the Liverpool United Tramways and Omnibus Company to construct new Tramways and to confer further powers on them with reference to other Tramways in the neighbourhood of Liverpool; and for other purposes.
- xciii. An Act to confer further Powers on the London Brighton and South Coast Railway Company and for other purposes.
- xciv. An Act to authorise the Metropolitan Railway Company to purchase certain Lands in the Parishes of Hammersmith and Kensington to make further Provision with reference to the completion of the Inner Circle Railway to vest outstanding Shares in the Metropolitan and Saint John's Wood Company in the Company to raise additional capital and for other purposes.
- xcv. An Act to enable the Liverpool United Gaslight Company to purchase additional land and to erect gasworks thereon: to raise further money; and for other purposes.
- x. An Act for conferring additional powers upon the Exmouth Gas Company; and for other purposes.
- P. xvii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Salford.
- P. xviii. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board relating to the Local Government District of Workington.
- P. xcix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Brecon Gas, High Wycombe Gas, Kettering Gas, Portsea Gas, Redditch Gas, Salisbury Gas, and Sheffield Gas.
- P. c. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, relating to Calne Water, Cromer Water, Denbigh Water, and Kenilworth Water.
- P. ci. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Birmingham and Aston Tramways, Birmingham and Suburban Tramways, Birmingham and Western Districts Tramways, Manchester, Bury, and Rochdale Tramways (Extensions), and Walsall and District Tramways.
- P. cii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Boards for West Ham (Essex) and Terrington St. John (Norfolk) to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- P. ciii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Improvement Act Districts of Fleetwood and Rhyl and the City of York.
- civ. An Act for empowering the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London to convert their authorised London Central Fruit Vegetable and Flower Market into an Inland Fish Market and to continue Faringdon Market and for other purposes.
- cv. An Act to enable the Tottenham and Edmonton Gas Light and Coke Company to acquire lands for purposes of their undertaking to raise Additional Capital and for other purposes.
- cvi. An Act for conferring powers on the Milford Docks Company for raising Additional Capital and to extend the time for completion of their Undertaking and for other purposes.
- cvii. An Act for incorporating the Newquay and District Water Company and for conferring powers on that Company and for other purposes.
- cviii. An Act to authorise the Seacombe Hoylake and Dee Side Railway Company to extend their Railway to New Brighton and for other purposes.
- cix. An Act to empower the Local Board for the District of Padiham and Hapton in the County of Lancaster to construct and maintain additional Waterworks and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to authorise the Northampton Street Tramways Company to construct additional Tramways; to abandon parts of their authorised Tramways; and for other purposes.
- cx. An Act to authorise the Liskeard and Caradon Railway Company to make certain Railways and Works for the improvement and extension of their existing Railway and for other purposes.
- cxii. An Act for empowering the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Carnarvon to acquire Morfa Seiont Common in the Borough and to lay out a public park and for other purposes.
- cxiii. An Act to revive and extend the powers of the Greenwich and Millwall Subway Company.
- cxiv. An Act to enable the Forth Bridge Railway Company to construct a substituted Railway across the Firth of Forth to amend the Acts relating to the Company and for other purposes.
- cxv. An Act for extending the boundaries of the borough of Kingston-upon-Hull for consolidating and amending various provisions of the Local Acts in force within the borough and for other purposes.
- cxvi. An Act for conferring additional Powers on the Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Company and on the Cheshire Lines Committee and for other purposes.
- cxvii. An Act to confirm an arrangement for the settlement of disputed claims between the Local Board for the district of Oswaldtwistle and certain persons with respect to moneys paid to and fraudulently appropriated by a former Clerk to the Board and to provide for carrying such arrangement into effect.
- cxviii. An Act to empower the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Accrington to make Tramways in or near the borough and for other purposes.

- cxix. An Act for conferring further powers on the Westgate and Birchington Gas Company for the purchase of land the construction of works the raising of money and otherwise in relation to their undertaking.
- cxx. An Act for empowering the Coventry and District Tramways Company to construct an additional Tramway in the city of Coventry and to deviate in constructing a part of their authorised Tramways to extend the time for constructing their undertaking; and for other purposes.
- cxxi. An Act for the abandonment of the Cheddle Railway.
- cxixii. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Rothwell Gaslight Company.
- cxixiii. An Act to authorise the Bury and Tottington District Railway Company to raise additional Capital.
- cxixiv. An Act to authorise the Highland Railway Company to construct a railway from Keith to Buckie; and for other purposes.
- cxixv. An Act to confer further powers on the Maidstone and Ashford Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- cxixvi. An Act to authorise the construction of a Railway from the Great North of Scotland Railway at Portsoy to Elgin; and for other purposes.
- cxixvii. An Act for the granting of further Powers to the Oxford Gas Light and Coke Company.
- cxixviii. An Act to confer further powers upon the Swansea Improvements and Tramways Company with respect to their Tramway Undertaking; and for other purposes.
- cxixix. An Act for conferring further powers upon the London and North-western Railway Company in connexion with their own undertaking and upon that Company and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company and the Great Western Railway Company in respect of other undertakings in which they are jointly interested; and for other purposes.
- cxixxx. An Act for conferring additional powers upon the Midland Railway Company for the construction of railways and other works and the acquisition of lands; for vesting in the Company the undertaking of the Evesham and Redditch Railway Company; for raising further Capital; and for other purposes.
- cxixxi. An Act to vary and amend the provisions of the South Staffordshire Mines Drainage Acts 1873 and 1878.
- cxixxii. An Act to authorise the Cranbrook and Paddock Wood Railway Company to extend their Railway to Hawkhurst in the county of Kent; to raise further money; and for other purposes.
- cxixxiii. An Act to enable the Trustees of the Port Harbour and Town of Whitehaven to raise a further sum of money for the purposes of their harbour and dock.
- cxixxiv. An Act to enable the Edinburgh Street Tramways Company to use steam or other mechanical power on their tramways and to confer other powers upon the said Company.
- cxixxv. An Act to confer further powers on the Taff Vale Railway Company with reference to the construction of new and authorised railways the acquisition of lands and the raising of capital and for other purposes.
- cxixxvi. An Act for empowering the North Metropolitan Tramways Company to extend their tramways along the Green Lanes and for other purposes.
- cxixxvii. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Queenstown Waterworks Company.
- P. cxixxviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the Tramways Act, 1870, relating to Aldershot and Farnborough Tramways Amendment, Birkdale and Southport Tramways (Use of Mechanical Power), Bristol Tramways (Extensions), Burnley and District Tramways Extension, Leamington and Warwick Tramways, Manchester Carriage and Tramways Company, North Staffordshire Tramways, and Oldham Borough Tramways (Extensions).
- P. cxixxix. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Boards for Finchley, Llanarth, and Upper Dylais to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- P. cxl. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board for Ireland relating to Waterworks in the town of Queenstown.
- P. cxli. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Education Department under the Elementary Education Act, 1870, to enable the School Board for London to put in force the Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845, and the Acts amending the same.
- cxlii. An Act for empowering the Londonderry Port and Harbour Commissioners to construct quays and other works; for conferring further powers on those Commissioners, and for other purposes.
- cxliiii. An Act to enable the London Tilbury and Southend Railway Company to construct additional railways and for other purposes.
- cxliv. An Act for the Establishment and Regulation of a Market in South London (near the Elephant and Castle Tavern) in the parish of Saint Mary Newington in the county of Surrey and for other purposes.
- cxlv. An Act for authorising the Gateshead and District Tramways Company to abandon the construction of a portion of their authorised Undertaking and to reduce their Capital for extending the Time for constructing the remainder of their Undertaking; and for other purposes.
- cxlvi. An Act for the establishment and regulation of a Fish Market in the parish of St. Paul's Shadwell and borough of Tower Hamlets in the county of Middlesex and the formation of a New Street and the widening and improvement of existing streets and landing stairs near to the market and for other purposes.
- cxlvii. An Act to authorise the Edinburgh Suburban and Southside Junction Railway Company to construct new Railways and to abandon part of their authorised Railways and for other purposes.
- cxlviii. An Act for conferring upon the Great Western Railway Company further powers for the construction of New Railways and

- other works and the taking of lands in the county of Glamorgan; for vesting in the Company the Undertaking of the Torbay and Brixham Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- cxlix. An Act to empower the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the town of Saint Helens in the county of Lancaster to make and maintain additional Waterworks and to borrow Money and for other purposes.
- cl. An Act for better supplying with Water Great Driffield and the adjoining district in the East Riding of the county of York.
- cli. An Act for incorporating the Ascot District Gas Company and for other purposes.
- clii. An Act to facilitate the winding-up of the City of Glasgow Bank, to transfer from the Liquidators to a Company the remaining Assets of the Bank; and for other purposes.
- cliii. An Act to authorise the Gravesend Railway Company to extend their Railway in Gravesend to make a Pier or Wharf in connexion therewith and for other purposes.
- cliv. An Act for extending the boundaries of the burgh of Greenock; to increase the number of the Town Council; to alter the constitution of the Board of Police at Greenock, and to confer further powers on that Board with respect to their Gas undertaking; to make further provisions with respect to the Harbour Trust of Greenock, and the Water Trust of Greenock, and the Municipal Government of the Burgh; and for other purposes.
- clv. An Act to authorise the Lydd Railway Company to extend their Railway to Headcorn and New Romney in the county of Kent to raise further money; and for other purposes.
- clvi. An Act to authorise the construction of the Norwood District Tramways in the county of Surrey; and for other purposes.
- clvii. An Act to extend the time for purchasing lands and completing the Metropolitan and District Railways (City Lines and Extensions) and for other purposes.
- clviii. An Act to enable the Trustees for the district and harbour of Maryport to raise a further sum of money for the purposes of their works for the improvement of the harbour of Maryport.
- clix. An Act for making Tramways in the county of Devon to be called "the Plymouth Devonport and District Tramways" and for other purposes.
- clx. An Act for authorising the construction of a railway from the Brent Station of the Great Western Railway Company to Kingsbridge and Salcombe; and for other purposes.
- clxi. An Act for extending the municipal and police boundaries of the city of Edinburgh, including the royal burgh thereof, and for amendment of the Edinburgh Municipal and Police Act, 1879, and application thereof to the districts annexed, and for other purposes.
- clxii. An Act for conferring further powers on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company with relation to their own undertaking and undertakings in which they are jointly interested and for other purposes.
- clxiii. An Act to authorise the London Street Tramways Company to construct additional tramways and for other purposes.
- clxiv. An Act for conferring further powers on the Southampton Harbour Board with reference to the construction of works the levying of rates and tolls and the raising of money and for other purposes.
- clxv. An Act for incorporating the Todmorden Waterworks Company and for conferring powers on that Company; and for other purposes.
- clxvi. An Act to authorise the Great Eastern Railway Company to construct additional Railways in the counties of Middlesex Hertford and Cambridge; to improve parts of their existing Railways and of the March and Spalding Railway; to construct Tramways at Wisbech and to execute other works and to confer upon them other powers in relation to their undertaking; to authorise a diversion of the Hertford Branch Railway; and for other purposes.
- clxvii. An Act for incorporating the Trustees of the Belfast Presbyterian College and authorising them to take conveyances and transfers of the said College and other property and for providing for the management of the same by the said Trustees subject to the control of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and for other purposes.
- P. clxviii. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act, 1861, relating to Bridlington, Broadstairs, Carnlough, Holywood, Johnshaven, Kettloft, Penmaenmawr, Plymouth, Seabrook, Southend, Stonehaven, Weymouth, and Worthing (West).
- P. clxix. An Act to confirm a Provisional Order of the Local Government Board under the provisions of the Gas and Water Works Facilities Act, 1870, and the Public Health Act, 1875, relating to the Local Government District of Upper Sedgley.
- P. clxx. An Act to confirm certain Provisional Orders of the Local Government Board relating to the Borough of Bury (two), the Godalming Main Sewerage District, and the Local Government Districts of Marsden and Northwich.
- clxxi. An Act to authorise the Construction of Additional Docks and other Works at Belfast; to extend the Powers of the Belfast Harbour Commissioners; and for other purposes.
- clxxii. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Newcastle-upon-Tyne to construct New Streets Roads and Street and Road Improvements Tramways and other Works and to make further provision for the good government of the City and for other purposes.
- clxxiii. An Act to confer further powers upon the Corporation of the Borough of Accrington for the Improvement of that Borough.
- clxxiv. An Act for conferring further powers on the Sutton Bridge Dock Company in relation to their undertaking and for other purposes.
- clxxv. An Act to enable the Bristol Waterworks Company to construct Additional Works and raise Additional Capital; and for other purposes.
- clxxvi. An Act to empower the Company of Proprietors of the Glamorganshire Canal Navigation to make and maintain a Railway

- and other Works at Cardiff and to raise further moneys and for other purposes.
- clxxvii. An Act to incorporate a company for the purpose of undertaking the working and management of railways; and for other purposes.
- clxxviii. An Act to confer further powers on the Waterford, Dungarvan, and Lismore Railway Company, to make provision with reference to traffic on the Railway of that Company and on the Railway of the Great Western Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- clxxix. An Act to authorise the Lynn and Fakenham Railway Company to construct railways and other works and for other purposes.
- clxxx. An Act to authorise the Tredegar Water and Gas Company to sell and the Local Board for the District of Tredegar to purchase the undertaking of the Company.
- clxxxi. An Act to empower the East London Railway Company to construct a new Railway and to abandon an authorised Railway and to lease their undertaking and for other purposes.
- clxxxii. An Act to incorporate a Company for the establishment regulation and maintenance of a general market and for making new streets and improvements in connection therewith in the parishes of St. Thomas and St. Mary on the north side of the City of Dublin and for other purposes.
- clxxxiii. An Act for extending the time for the completion of the Alford and Sutton Tramways.
- clxxxiv. An Act to authorise the Dundee Gas Commissioners to create and issue Debenture Stock; and for other purposes.
- clxxxv. An Act to amend and consolidate the Dundee Police and other Acts; to enable the Dundee Police Commissioners to create and issue Debenture Stock; and for other purposes.
- clxxxvi. An Act for making a Railway from the Kelvin Valley Railway to the Denny Branch of the Caledonian Railway and for other purposes.
- clxxxvii. An Act for conferring further powers on the Plymouth and Dartmoor Railway Company for the construction of works the raising of Money and otherwise in relation to their undertaking and for other purposes.
- clxxxviii. An Act for conferring further powers on the Solway Junction Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- clxxxix. An Act for embanking and reclaiming certain Waste or Slob Lands in South Kerry in the County of Kerry.
- cx. An Act to confer further powers on the Corporation of Glasgow in relation to their Gas undertaking by the construction of connecting Railways between their Dalmarnock Works and the Caledonian Railway; the construction of a new street; and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act to confer further powers upon the Great Northern Railway Company to enable them to acquire the undertaking of the Louth and Lincoln Railway Company and for other purposes.
- cxcii. An Act to authorise the South London Tramways Company to construct additional Tramways to confer further powers on that Company and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act for authorising the Ramsgate and Margate Tramways Company to abandon the construction of a portion of their authorised undertaking to extend the time for constructing the remainder of their Undertaking and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act for dissolving the North London Suburban Tramway Company Limited and re-incorporating them under the name of the North London Tramways Company and to confer upon them powers to construct and maintain additional Tramways and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act for granting further powers to the Swindon Marlborough and Andover Railway Company, and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act to enable the guardians of the poor of the parish of Saint Pancras Middlesex to acquire lands and hereditaments adjacent to their workhouse for the extension thereof; and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act to confer further powers on the Didcot Newbury and Southampton Junction Railway Company; to enable them to extend their Railway to Southampton and Aldermaston; and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act for making Railways in the Counties of Salop Denbigh and Montgomery to be called the Oswestry and Llangynog Railway and for other purposes.
- cxci. An Act for conferring upon the Pontypridd Caerphilly and Newport Railway Company further powers in connexion with their own undertaking and the undertakings of the Rhymney and Brecon and Merthyr Tydfil Junction Railway Companies, and for other purposes.
- cc. An Act for the construction of a quay and other works within the Harbour of Dartmouth for amending the Dartmouth Harbour Orders 1863 and 1870 and for other purposes.
- cc. An Act for incorporating the Rhondda and Swansea Bay Railway Company and for other purposes.
- cc. An Act for making a Railway from the central Wales Extension Line of the London and North-western Railway Company at Llangammarch to the Neath and Brecon Railway at Devynock in the county of Brecon and for other purposes.
- cc. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Manchester in the county of Lancaster to acquire and maintain an Art Gallery and for the regulation thereof to execute works for the purposes of their Waterworks to amend and extend the provisions of the Local Acts relating to the City of Manchester and for other purposes.]
- cc. An Act to repeal "The Mersey Docks and Harbour Board (Overhead Railways) Act 1878" and to confer new and further powers upon the Board for the construction of overhead or high level Railways in connexion with their Docks on the Liverpool side of the River Mersey; and for other purposes relating to the Board and their Docks.

- ccv. An Act to incorporate the West Metropolitan Tramways Company, to empower them to construct new Tramways, and acquire existing Tramways, and for other purposes.
- ccvi. An Act to authorise an Extension of Time to the Severn Bridge and Forest of Dean Central Railway Company for completing their Undertaking.
- ccvii. An Act to extend the time for the completion of the Limehouse Subway and for other purposes.
- ccviii. An Act to empower the Trustees of the Will of the late William Earl of Lonsdale to construct a new Dock and other Works in connexion with the existing Workington Harbour, and to raise money for that purpose, and to authorise a sale or transfer by the said Trustees of the Workington Harbour undertaking (being part of the estates settled by the will of the said Earl) and for other purposes.
- ccix. An Act to confer further powers on the Easton Neston Mineral and Towcester, Roade and Olney Junction Railway Company, to change the name of the Company, and for other purposes.
- ccx. An Act to extend the Limits of Supply of the Busby Water Company; to authorise the Company to construct new works and raise additional Capital; and for other purposes.
- ccxi. An Act for authorising the London and South-western Railway Company to make new Railways and other works and to purchase additional lands, and for conferring other powers upon them in relation to their own and other undertakings; for the widening of the Somerset and Dorset Railway; for empowering the Company and the London Brighton and South Coast Railway Company to acquire additional lands; for the sale or lease of part of the Plymouth and Dartmoor Railway to the Company; for authorising agreements between the Company and other Corporations bodies and Companies; and for other purposes.
- ccxii. An Act to vest in the Corporation of the borough of Northampton the Race Ground or Freeman's Commons; to extinguish the Freeman's rights of pasturage in certain other lands of the Corporation; to empower the Corporation to form public Parks, and to make New Street Improvements; and for other purposes.
- ccxiii. An Act for making Tramways in the parish of Camberwell in the county of Surrey and for other purposes.
- ccxiv. An Act for conferring upon the Great Western Railway Company further powers in connexion with their own and other undertakings, and for conferring upon other Companies further powers in connexion with undertakings in which they are jointly interested with that Company; for reviving the Powers of constructing portions of the Coleford Railway and taking Lands for the same; for vesting in the Great Western Railway Company the Undertakings of the Swindon and Highworth Light Railway Company and the Berks and Hants Extension Railway Company; and for other purposes.
- ccxv. An Act for conferring further powers on the Whitland, Cronware, and Pendine Railway Company in relation to their undertaking, and for other purposes.
- ccxvi. An Act for making Railways from the Stobcross Branch of the North British Railway to the Glasgow and Coatbridge Branch and the Helensburgh Branch of that Railway, and for other purposes.
- ccxvii. An Act to vest in the Corporation of Nottingham the Nottingham Freeman's Estate; to confer further powers on the Corporation relating to drainage, streets, and other matters of local government, and the borrowing of money; and for other purposes.
- ccxviii. An Act to empower the Rotherham and Bawtry Railway Company to make new Railways at Rotherham to abandon part of their authorised Railway and to raise further capital; and for other purposes.
- ccxix. An Act for conferring on the South-eastern Railway Company various powers with reference to their own undertakings and the undertakings of other Companies and for other purposes.
- ccxx. An Act for incorporating the Tilbury and Gravesend Tunnel Junction Railway Company; for authorising the construction of Railways; and for other purposes.
- P. ccxxi. An Act to amend the Limerick Harbour (Composition of Debt) Act, 1867, in relation to Wellesley Bridge.
- ccxxii. An Act for amending the Metropolitan Street Improvements Act 1877.
- ccxxiii. An Act to enable the Church Fenton, Cawood, and Wistow Railway Company to construct a Railway to join the Hull, Barnsley and West Riding Junction Railway, and to extend the time for the completion of their authorised Railway; and for other purposes.
- ccxxiv. An Act for conferring upon the Local Board for the District of Chadderton in the county of Lancaster powers for the acquisition of Lands and the construction of Works and for extending and defining the powers of the Local Board in relation to Streets Buildings and the Improvement and good Government of the district and for other purposes.
- ccxxv. An Act to alter and amend the Ballymena and Portglenone Railway Act, 1879.
- ccxxvi. An Act to authorise the construction of a new Road between Peckham in the county of Surrey and Lewisham in the county of Kent.
- ccxxvii. An Act to amalgamate the Lynn and Fakenham the Yarmouth and North Norfolk (Light) the Yarmouth Union the Midland and Eastern and the Peterborough Wisbeach and Sutton Railway Companies.
- ccxxviii. An Act for incorporating the Devon and Cornwall Central Railway Company and for other purposes.
- ccxxix. An Act to enable the Girvan and Portpatrick Junction Railway Company to raise further moneys, to arrange with their creditors, and to authorise in certain events the sale of the Undertaking.
- ccxxx. An Act for incorporating and conferring Powers on the East Warwickshire Waterworks Company.
- ccxxxi. An Act for incorporating and conferring powers on the Ross District Water Company.

- ccxxxii. An Act to enable the Wrexham Mold and Connah's Quay Railway Company to make new Branch Railways Roads Streets and other Works to raise further Capital and for other purposes.
- ccxxxiii. An Act to empower the Justices of the Peace for the county of Essex to consolidate the County Debt, and to create and issue County Stock.
- ccxxxiv. An Act to define and extend the Limits of Gas Supply of the Corporation of Halifax and to make further Provision for the Borrowing of Money by the Corporation and for other purposes.
- ccxxxv. An Act to make further provision respecting the borrowing of Money by the Corporation of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and for other purposes.
- ccxxxvi. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Huddersfield to construct Additional Tramways Street and Road Improvements Waterworks and other Works and to make further provision for the good Government of the Borough and for other purposes.
- ccxxxvii. An Act to make further provision respecting the borrowing of Money by the Corporation of Rotherham to authorise the raising of further Sums the extension of time for construction of Dalton Reservoir and for other purposes.
- ccxxxviii. An Act for making further provisions respecting the issue and management of Swansea Corporation Stock and for altering the Swansea Corporation Loans Act, 1881 so far as necessary for that purpose.
- ccxxxix. An Act for making further provision respecting the Borrowing of Money by the Corporation of Tynemouth and for other purposes.
- ccxl. An Act to make further provision respecting the borrowing of Money by the Corporation of Wolverhampton, and for other purposes.
- ccxli. An Act to extend the powers of the Ionian Bank, and for other purposes.
- ccxlii. An Act for conferring on the trustees and others claiming under the Will of the late Marquis of Bute power to extend their Docks and Railways at Cardiff and for other purposes.
- ccxliii. An Act to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to the borough of Blackburn, and to make further provision for its local government and improvement; to authorise the construction of Tramways; and for other purposes.
- ccxliv. An Act to enable the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Bolton to make new streets and street improvements and to construct additional gasworks and waterworks to extend the limits of gas and water supply and to make further provision for the improvement and government of the borough and for other purposes.
- ccxlv. An Act to enable the Corporation of Derby to acquire Little Chester Green to make a new Recreation Ground to vest the Arboretum in the Corporation and to maintain and regulate the same and Basse's Recreation Ground and Baths to make further provision respecting the borrowing of money by the Corporation and for other purposes.
- ccxlv. An Act to authorise the Hull Barnsley and West Riding Junction Railway and Dock Company to make and maintain new Railways and a new Dock and other works and to raise further money and for other purposes.
- ccxlvii. An Act for making a Railway in the county of Middlesex to be called the Latimer Road and Acton Railway, and for other purposes.
- ccxlviii. An Act for the transfer of the Undertaking of the Kingston and London Railway Company to the London and South-western and Metropolitan District Railway Companies; for authorising deviations in the Kingston and London Railway; and for other purposes.
- ccxlix. An Act to make better provision for the Health, Local Government and Improvement of the Borough of Macclesfield, and to make further provision in relation to the existing and future loans of the Corporation, and for other purposes.
- ccli. An Act for making a Railway between Wimbledon and Putney in the county of Surrey.
- ccli. An Act for empowering the Alexandra (Newport and South Wales) Docks and Railway Company to make a New Dock and other Works in Extension of the Company's Works in the Borough of Newport in the County of Monmouth and for other purposes.
- cclii. An Act for incorporating a Company for the construction of a Railway between Bawtry and Serooby and West Stockwith and of a Dock at West Stockwith.
- ccliii. An Act for incorporating the Bridgewater Railway Company and authorising them to make and maintain the Bridgewater Railway and for authorising arrangements between them and the London and South-western Railway Company and for other purposes.
- ccliv. An Act for incorporating the North Cornwall Railway Company and authorising them to make and maintain the North Cornwall Railway and for authorising arrangements between them and the London and South-western Railway Company and for other purposes.
- cclv. An Act for making a Railway from Charing Cross to the Waterloo Station of the London and South-western Railway to be called the Charing Cross and Waterloo Electric Railway and for other purposes.
- ccclvi. An Act for forming a Deep Water Harbour at Dover; and for other purposes.
- ccclvii. An Act for incorporating the London Southern Tramways Company and empowering them to construct Tramways in the parishes of Lambeth and Camberwell in the County of Surrey and for other purposes.
- ccclviii. An Act to authorise the Mersey Railway Company to divert a portion of their authorised line in Birkenhead, and to extend it to the central station in Liverpool, and for other purposes.
- ccclix. An Act to confer further powers on the Metropolitan District Railway Company with respect to their own and to joint undertakings.

[A.D. 1882.]

LOCAL ACTS.

[45 & 46 VICT.]

- cclx. An Act to authorise the Rhymney Railway Company to make new Railways in the parish of Merthyr Tydfil in the County of Glamorgan; and for other purposes.
- ccxi. An Act to authorise the Southport and Cheshire Lines Extension Railway Company to extend their Railway into the Borough of Southport to divert a portion of their authorised Railway and for other purposes.
- ccxii. An Act for incorporating the Regent's Canal City and Docks Railway Company; for the transfer to them of the undertaking of the Regent's Canal Company; for authorising the construction of Railways from the Great Western Railway at Paddington to the City and to the Royal Albert Dock of the London and Saint Katharine Dock's Company; and of street improvements and other works; and for other purposes.
- cclxiii. An Act for authorising the South-eastern Railway Company to make new lines and widen their existing lines in the City of London and in the Counties of Middlesex Surrey and Kent and for other purposes.
- cclxiv. An Act for making Railways in the Counties of Middlesex and Essex, to be called "The Metropolitan Outer Circle Railway," and for other purposes.
- cclxv. An Act for making a Railway from near Radstock to Congresbury in the County of Somerset and for other purposes.
- cclxvi. An Act for making a Railway from Beaconsfield in the County of Buckingham to Harrow in the County of Middlesex and for other purposes.

PRIVATE ACTS,

PRINTED BY THE QUEEN'S PRINTER.

AND WHEREOF THE PRINTED COPIES MAY BE GIVEN IN EVIDENCE.

1. **A**N Act for confirming certain arrangements made between the co-partnership of Crawshay Brothers and their landlords respecting the lease of the Cyfarthfa works and property in the parish of Merthyr Tydfil in the county of Glamorgan; and for other purposes.
2. An Act to provide during the subsistence of the trust for accumulation contained in the Will of Thomas George Corbett Esquire deceased an annual sum for maintenance of the person of full age entitled in immediate expectancy and to enable the grant of jointures by persons entitled in expectancy and for other purposes.
3. An Act to enable the Trustees of the Earl of Aylesford's Settled Estates to raise money for payment of his Debts, and for vesting in such Trustees his Life Interest in the Settled Estates and for other purposes.
4. An Act for carrying into effect an arrangement respecting the Estates of His Highness Maharajah Duleep Singh.
5. An Act to give to the Trustees of the Will of Sir Richard Colt Hoare Baronet deceased power to sell property settled by the Testator.

THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE.

— 9 —

PUTTING THE QUESTION.

(1.) *Resolved*, That when it shall appear to Mr. Speaker, or to the Chairman of Ways and Means in a Committee of the whole House, during any Debate, that the subject has been adequately discussed, and that it is the evident sense of the House, or of the Committee, that the Question be now put, he may so inform the House or the Committee; and, if a Motion be made "That the Question be now put," Mr. Speaker, or the Chairman, shall forthwith put such Question; and, if the same be decided in the affirmative, the Question under discussion shall be put forthwith: Provided that the Question, "That the Question be now put," shall not be decided in the affirmative, if a Division be taken, unless it shall appear to have been supported by more than two hundred Members, or unless it shall appear to have been opposed by less than forty Members and supported by more than one hundred Members.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT BEFORE PUBLIC BUSINESS.

(2.) *Resolved*, That no Motion for the Adjournment of the House shall be made until all the Questions on the Notice Paper have been disposed of, and no such Motion shall be made before the Orders of the Day, or Notices of Motions have been entered upon, except by leave of the House, unless a Member rising in his place shall propose to move the Adjournment, for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, and not less than forty Members shall thereupon rise in their places to support the Motion; or unless, if fewer than forty Members and not less than ten shall thereupon rise in their places, the House shall, on a Division, upon Question put forthwith, determine whether such Motion shall be made.

DEBATES ON MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT.

(3.) *Resolved*, That when a Motion is made for the Adjournment of a Debate, or of the House, during any Debate, or that the Chairman of a Committee do report Progress, or do leave the Chair, the Debate thereupon shall be confined to the matter of such Motion; and no Member, having moved or seconded any such Motion, shall be entitled to move, or second, any similar Motion during the same Debate.

DIVISIONS.

(4.) *Resolved*, That, after the House has entered upon the Orders of the Day or Notices of Motions, when, after the House has been cleared for a Division, upon a Motion for the Adjournment of a Debate, or of the House during any Debate, or that the Chairman of a Committee do report Progress, or do leave the Chair, the decision of Mr. Speaker, or of the Chairman of a Committee, that the Ayes or Noes have it is challenged, Mr. Speaker or the Chairman may, after the lapse of two minutes, as indicated by the sand glass, call upon the Members challenging it to rise in their places, and, if they be less than twenty in a House of forty Members or upwards, he may forthwith declare the determination of the House or of the Committee.

THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—*continued.*

IRRELEVANCE OR REPETITION.

(5.) *Resolved*, That Mr. Speaker, or the Chairman of Ways and Means, may call the attention of the House, or of the Committee, to continued irrelevance or tedious repetition on the part of a Member; and may direct the Member to discontinue his Speech.

POSTPONEMENT OF PREAMBLE.

(6.) *Resolved*, That, in Committee on a Bill, the Preamble do stand postponed until after the consideration of the Clauses, without Question put.

CHAIRMAN TO LEAVE THE CHAIR WITHOUT QUESTION.

(7.) *Resolved*, That when the Chairman of a Committee has been ordered to make a Report to the House, he shall leave the Chair without Question put.

HALF-PAST TWELVE O'CLOCK RULE.

[Standing Order of 18 February 1879, amended 9 May and 20 November 1882.]

(8.) *Resolved*, That, except for a Money Bill, no Order of the Day or Notice of Motion be taken after half-past Twelve of the clock at night, with respect to which Order or Notice of Motion a Notice of Opposition or Amendment shall have been printed on the Notice Paper, or if such Notice of Motion shall only have been given the next previous day of sitting, and objection shall be taken when such Notice is called.

That Motions for the appointment or nomination of Standing Committees and Proceedings made in accordance with the provisions of any Act of Parliament or Standing Order, Motions for leave to bring in Bills, and Bills which have passed through Committee of the whole House, be excepted from the operation of this Order.

Provided, That every such Notice of Opposition or Amendment be signed in the House by a Member, and dated, and shall lapse at the end of the week following that in which it was given.

Provided also, That this Rule shall not apply to the nomination of Select Committees.

ORDER IN DEBATE.

[Standing Order of 28 February 1880, as amended.]

(9.) *Resolved*, That, whenever any Member shall have been named by the Speaker, or by the Chairman of a Committee of the whole House, immediately after the commission of the offence of disregarding the authority of the Chair, or of abusing the Rules of the House by persistently and wilfully obstructing the business of the House, or otherwise, then, if the offence has been committed by such Member in the House, the Speaker shall forthwith put the Question, on a Motion being made, no Amendment, Adjournment, or Debate, being allowed, "That such Member be suspended from the service of the House;" and, if the offence has been committed in a Committee of the whole House, the Chairman shall, on a Motion being made, put the same question in a similar way, and if the Motion is carried shall forthwith suspend the proceedings of the Committee and report the circumstance to the House; and the Speaker shall thereupon put the same Question, without Amendment, Adjournment, or Debate, as if the offence had been committed in the House itself. If any Member be suspended under this Order, his suspension on the first occasion shall continue for one week, on the second occasion for a fortnight, and on the third, or any subsequent occasion, for a month: Provided always, That suspension from the service of the House shall not exempt the Member so suspended from serving on any Committee for the consideration of a Private Bill to which he may have

THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—*continued.*

been appointed before his suspension: Provided also, That not more than one Member shall be named at the same time, unless several Members, present together, have jointly disregarded the authority of the Chair: Provided always, That nothing in this Resolution shall be taken to deprive the House of the power of proceeding against any Member according to ancient usages.

DEBATES ON MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT.

(10.) *Resolved*, That if Mr. Speaker, or the Chairman of a Committee of the whole House, shall be of opinion that a Motion for the Adjournment of a Debate, or of the House, during any Debate, or that the Chairman do report Progress, or do leave the Chair, is an abuse of the Rules of the House, he may forthwith put the Question thereupon from the Chair.

CONSIDERATION OF A BILL, AS AMENDED.

(11.) *Resolved*, That, when the Order of the Day for the Consideration of a Bill, as amended in the Committee of the whole House has been read, the House do proceed to consider the same without Question put, unless the Member in charge thereof shall desire to postpone its consideration, or a Motion shall be made to re-commit the Bill.

NOTICES ON GOING INTO COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

(12.) *Resolved*, That, whenever the Committee of Supply stands as the first Order of the Day on Monday or Thursday, Mr. Speaker shall leave the Chair without putting any Question, unless on first going into Supply on the Army, Navy, or Civil Service Estimates respectively, or on any Vote of Credit, an Amendment be moved, or Question raised, relating to the Estimates proposed to be taken in Supply.

(13.) *Resolved*, That the first seven and the last three of the said Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House.

II. *Standing Committees.*

STANDING COMMITTEES ON LAW AND COURTS OF JUSTICE, TRADE, &c.

(1.) *Resolved*, That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice and Legal Procedure, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may, by order of the House, in each case, be committed to them; and the procedure in such Committees shall be the same as in a Select Committee, unless the House shall otherwise order: Provided, That strangers shall be admitted, except when the Committee shall order them to withdraw: Provided also, That the said Committees shall be excluded from the operation of the Standing Order of July 21st 1856, and the said Committees shall not sit, whilst the House is sitting, without the order of the House: Provided also, That any Notice of Amendment to any Clause in a Bill which may be committed to a Standing Committee given by any honourable Member in the House shall stand referred to such Committee: Provided also, That twenty be the quorum of such Standing Committees.

NOMINATION BY COMMITTEE OF SELECTION.

(2.) *Resolved*, That each of the said Standing Committees do consist of not less than sixty, nor more than eighty, Members, to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, who shall have regard to the classes of Bills committed to such Committees, to the composition of the House, and to the qualifications of the Members selected; and shall have power to discharge Members from time to time, and to appoint others in substitution for those so discharged. The Committee of Selection shall also have power to add not more than fifteen Members to a Standing Committee in respect of any Bill referred to it to serve on the Committee during the consideration of such Bill,

THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE—*continued.*

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

(3.) *Resolved*, That the Committee of Selection shall nominate a Chairmen's Panel to consist of not less than four nor more than six Members, of whom three shall be a quorum; and the Chairmen's Panel shall appoint from among themselves the Chairman of each Standing Committee, and may change the Chairman so appointed from time to time.

COMMITMENT AND REPORT OF BILLS.

(4.) *Resolved*, That all Bills which shall have been committed to one of the said Standing Committees, shall, when reported to the House, be proceeded with as if they had been reported from a Committee of the whole House: Provided, That the provisions of the Standing Order (Consideration of a Bill, as amended), shall not apply to a Bill reported to the House by a Standing Committee.

DURATION OF RESOLUTIONS.

(5.) *Resolved*, That the four preceding Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House until the end of the next Session of Parliament.

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE, SESSION 1882.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 1 December 1882 ;—for,

A RETURN "of the Number of Days on which THE HOUSE SAT in the Session of 1882, stating, for each Day, the Date of the Month, and Day of the Week, the Hour of the Meeting, and the Hour of Adjournment; and the Total Number of Hours occupied in the Sittings of The House, and the Average Time; and showing the Number of Hours on which The House Sat each Day, and the Number of Hours after Midnight; and the Number of Entries in each Day's Votes and Proceedings" (in continuation of Parliamentary Paper, No. 0.123, of Session 1881).

(Sir Charles Forster.)

Month.	Day.	House met.	House adjourned.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Midnight.	Entries in Votes.	Month.	Day.	House met.	House adjourned.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Midnight.	Entries in Votes.
		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.				H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
1882							1882						
Feb. 7	Tu	1 30	11 45	10 15	- -	99	April 3	M	4 0	2 45	10 45	2 45	95
" 8	W	12 0	6 0	6 0	- -	47	" 4	Tu	2 0	6 55	4 55	- -	40
" 9	Th	4 0	2 45	10 45	2 45	94	" 17	M	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	75
" 10	F	4 0	12 45	8 45	0 45	79	" 18	Tu	4 0	8 15	4 15	- -	60
" 13	M	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	230	" 19	W	12 0	6 0	6 0	- -	69
" 14	Tu	4 0	9 30	5 30	- -	180	" 20	Th	4 0	1 0	9 0	1 0	69
" 15	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	45	" 21	F	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	57
" 16	Th	4 0	1 45	9 45	1 45	29	" 24	M	4 0	1 30	9 30	1 30	81
" 17	F	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	43	" 25	Tu	2 0	1 0	11 0	1 0	88
" 20	M	4 0	2 0	10 0	2 0	122	" 26	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	62
" 21	Tu	4 0	1 15	9 15	1 15	72	" 27	Th	4 0	1 0	9 0	1 0	88
" 22	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	51	" 28	F	4 0	3 0	11 0	3 0	84
" 23	Th	4 0	2 0	10 0	2 0	46	Total...		12	- -	101 45	14 45	877
" 24	F	4 0	3 30	11 30	3 30	48							
" 27	M	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	136	May 1	M	4 0	1 30	9 30	1 30	98
" 28	Tu	4 0	8 30	4 30	- -	48	" 2	Tu	2 0	12 45	10 45	0 45	70
Total...	16	- -	- -	139 021	0	1,363	" 3	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	66
Mar. 1	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	48	" 4	Th	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	75
" 2	Th	4 0	1 15	9 15	1 15	47	" 5	F	4 0	1 30	9 30	1 30	79
" 3	F	4 0	3 30	11 30	3 30	49	" 8	M	4 0	4 45	0 45	- -	53
" 6	M	4 0	3 0	11 0	3 0	121	" 9	Tu	4 0	7 45	3 45	- -	108
" 7	Tu	4 0	8 30	4 30	- -	62	" 10	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	83
" 8	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	56	" 11	Th	9 0	2 0	5 0	2 0	17
" 9	Th	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	46	" 12	F	4 0	1 30	9 30	1 30	84
" 10	F	4 0	2 45	10 45	2 45	57	" 15	M	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	119
" 13	M	4 0	4 0	12 0	4 0	65	" 16	Tu	2 0	9 5	7 5	- -	81
" 14	Tu	4 0	7 30	3 30	- -	59	" 17	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	69
" 15	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	51	" 18	Th	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	72
" 16	Th	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	45	" 19	F	2 0	3 30	13 30	3 30	77
" 17	F	4 0	1 45	9 45	1 45	43	" 22	M	4 0	4 0	12 0	4 0	114
" 20	M	4 0	2 0	10 0	2 0	63	" 23	Tu	2 0	2 45	12 45	2 45	90
" 21	Tu	4 0	2 45	10 45	2 45	63	" 24	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	66
" 22	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	42	" 25	Th	4 0	1 45	9 45	1 45	93
" 23	Th	4 0	2 15	10 15	2 15	55	" 26	F	2 0	6 55	4 55	- -	75
" 24	F	4 0	4 0	12 0	4 0	63	Total...		20	- -	162 55	26 0	1,594
" 27	M	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	86							
" 28	Tu	2 0	10 15	8 15	- -	58							
" 29	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	62							
" 30	Th	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	61							
" 31	F	4 0	9 30	5 30	- -	57							
Total...	23	- -	- -	199 5036	45	1,358							

SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE, SESSION 1882.

Month.	Day.	House met.	House adjourned.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Midnight.	Entries in Votes.	Month.	Day.	House met.	House adjourned.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Midnight.	Entries in Votes.
1882		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.		1882		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
June 1	Th	4 0	1 15	9 15	1 15	109	Aug 1	Tu	4 0	3 15	11 15	3 15	79
" 2	F	4 0	1 30	9 30	1 30	67	" 2	W	12 0	6 0	6 0	- -	57
" 5	M	4 0	2 0	10 0	2 0	121	" 3	Th	4 0	3 15	11 15	3 15	83
" 6	Tu	4 0	1 45	9 45	1 45	84	" 4	F	4 0	3 0	11 0	3 0	94
" 7	W	12 0	6 0	6 0	- -	50	" 5	S	12 0	6 30	6 30	- -	25
" 8	Th	4 0	2 0	10 0	2 0	88	" 7	M	4 0	3 45	11 45	3 45	74
" 9	F	4 0	2 0	10 0	2 0	70	" 8	Tu	4 0	3 30	11 30	3 30	72
" 12	M	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	122	" 9	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	69
" 13	Tu	2 0	2 15	12 15	2 15	72	" 10	Th	4 0	2 45	10 45	2 45	69
" 14	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	62	" 11	F	4 0	1 45	9 45	1 45	70
" 15	Th	4 0	3 0	11 0	3 0	78	" 12	S	12 0	5 0	5 0	- -	20
" 16	F	2 0	2 15	12 15	2 15	69	" 14	M	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	62
" 19	M	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	89	" 15	Tu	3 0	12 30	9 30	0 30	53
" 20	Tu	2 0	2 30	12 30	2 30	73	" 16	W	12 0	4 30	4 30	- -	33
" 21	W	12 0	5 50	5 50	- -	64	" 17	Th	2 0	9 15	7 15	- -	61
" 22	Th	4 0	1 45	9 45	1 45	70	" 18	F	2 15	3 0	0 45	- -	22
" 23	F	2 0	3 15	13 15	3 15	57	Total...	16	-	-	133 10	24 15	943
" 26	M	4 0	3 15	11 15	3 15	82	Oct. 24	Tu	4 0	9 0	5 0	- -	32
" 27	Tu	2 0	2 30	12 30	2 30	86	" 25	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	22
" 28	W	12 0	6 0	6 0	- -	50	" 26	Th	4 0	1 0	9 0	1 0	20
" 29	Th	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	66	" 27	F	4 0	12 30	8 30	0 30	16
" *30	F	2 0					" 30	M	4 0	12 45	8 45	0 45	11
July 1	S	- -	8 0	30 0	0 20	67	" 31	Tu	4 0	12 15	8 15	0 15	11
Total...	22	-	-	238 30	58 45	1,711	Total...	6	-	-	45 25	2 30	112
July 3	M	4 0	1 30	9 30	1 30	119	Nov. 1	W	12 0	5 40	5 40	- -	11
" 4	Tu	2 0	1 15	11 15	1 15	61	" 2	Th	4 0	1 15	9 15	1 15	18
" 5	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	59	" 3	F	4 0	1 0	9 0	1 0	13
" 6	Th	4 0	3 15	11 15	3 15	71	" 6	M	4 0	12 5	8 5	0 5	11
" 7	F	2 0	1 30	11 30	1 30	79	" 7	Tu	4 0	12 15	8 15	0 15	10
" 10	M	4 0	2 0	10 0	2 0	83	" 8	W	12 0	5 45	5 45	- -	10
" 11	Tu	2 0	2 0	12 0	2 0	72	" 9	Th	4 0	11 55	7 55	- -	12
" 12	W	12 0	6 0	6 0	- -	61	" 10	F	4 0	1 15	9 15	1 15	12
" 13	Th	4 0	3 45	11 45	3 45	70	" 13	M	4 0	12 15	8 15	0 15	14
" 14	F	2 0	1 45	11 45	1 45	75	" 14	T	4 0	1 0	9 0	1 0	14
" 15	S	12 0	7 45	7 45	- -	15	" 15	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	9
" 17	M	4 0	1 45	9 45	1 45	100	" 16	Th	4 0	1 0	9 0	1 0	14
" 18	Tu	2 0	1 45	11 45	1 45	80	" 17	F	4 0	12 30	8 30	0 30	12
" 19	W	12 0	6 0	6 0	- -	60	" 20	M	4 0	12 35	8 35	0 35	8
" 20	Th	4 0	2 45	10 45	2 45	76	" 21	Tu	4 0	12 45	8 45	0 45	13
" 21	F	2 0	1 30	11 30	1 30	80	" 22	W	12 0	5 45	5 45	- -	7
" 22	S	12 0	5 12	5 0	5 0	31	" 23	Th	4 0	12 45	8 45	0 45	9
" 24	M	4 0	2 30	10 30	2 30	91	" 24	F	4 0	1 0	9 0	1 0	16
" 25	Tu	2 0	1 30	11 30	1 30	84	" 27	M	4 0	12 30	8 30	0 30	10
" 26	W	12 0	5 55	5 55	- -	63	" 28	Tu	4 0	12 45	8 45	0 45	10
" 27	Th	4 0	3 0	11 0	3 0	78	" 29	W	12 0	5 45	5 45	- -	5
" 28	F	2 0	2 0	12 0	2 0	67	" 30	Th	4 0	1 15	9 15	1 15	16
" 31	M	4 0	2 45	10 45	2 45	80	Total...	22	-	-	176 57	11 10	254
Total...	23	-	-	232 10	36 35	1,661	Dec. 1	F	4 0	8 45	4 45	- -	29
							" 2	S	4 0	Prorogation.	- -	- -	34
							Total...	2	-	-	4 45	- -	63

* The House met on Friday the 30th of June at 2 p.m., and sat till Saturday the 1st July at 8 p.m.

SUMMARY.

Month.	Days of Sitting.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Midnight.	Entries in Votes.
1882		H. M.	H. M.	
February	16	139 0	21 0	1,363
March	23	199 50	36 45	1,359
April	12	101 45	14 45	877
May	20	162 55	26 0	1,594
June.....	22	238 30	58 45	1,711
July	23	232 10	36 35	1,661
August.....	16	133 10	24 15	943
October	6	45 25	2 30	112
November ...	22	176 57	11 10	254
December ...	2	4 45	- -	63
Total.....	162	1,434 27	231 45	9,937

Average Time of Sitting, 8 Hours 51 Minutes.

DIVISIONS OF THE HOUSE, SESSION 1882—(PARL. PAPER 0.154.)

SUMMARY.

Number of Divisions on Public Business before Midnight	...	...	225
Ditto " " after Midnight	...	...	175
Ditto—Private Business " before Midnight	...	...	5
Ditto " " after Midnight	...	...	—
Total Number of Divisions in Session 1882	...	...	405

PRIVATE BILLS.

RETURN of the Number of **PRIVATE BILLS** introduced, and brought from the **HOUSE OF LORDS** ; and of **ACTS** passed in the Session of 1882.

Number of Private Bills, introduced in the House of Commons ...	...	203
Number of Private Bills (originating in the House of Lords under Standing Order 79) ...	...	96
Estate Bills, &c. brought from the Lords ...	...	5
Total ...	...	304

NUMBER OF PRIVATE BILLS which have received the **ROYAL ASSENT** ... 227

GENERAL INDEX TO SESSION 1882.

EXPLANATION OF THE ABBREVIATIONS.

It being a principal object of this Index, that the proceedings on each Motion shall be completely recorded, some abbreviations of forms were necessary. Those who are accustomed to the proceedings of Parliament will readily fill up the voids. Those who are not so familiar, may find the following explanation useful, but will find the whole *formulae* set out at length in the "Contents."

The names which immediately follow the title of a Bill are those of the Peers or hon. Members who have charge of the Bill.

The numbers which are added at stages of Bills are the official numbers of the prints and reprints ordered at each stage, and, with the Statute, will enable the reader to follow all the changes the Bill has undergone.

The entries—Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d;" Amendt. "this day six months;" Question put, "That 'now,' &c."—indicate the usual form of raising the issue—namely, "That the word 'now' stand part of the Question."

"*The Ballot*, Amendt. on Committee of Supply" indicates that the Question was raised by means of an Amendment moved on the Motion (after the Order of the Day for the House to go into Committee of Supply had been read), "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair." In this case the issue is formally raised by the Motion "To leave out from the word 'That' to the end of the Question, in order to add" other words. The decision is taken on the Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question."

The Nos. added to the "Parliamentary Papers" are in most cases those given in the Commons' "List of Papers for Sale."

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TO

HANSARD'S PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES,

IN THE THIRD SESSION OF THE

TWENTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

45° & 46° VICTORIÆ.

1882.

EXPLANATION OF THE ABBREVIATIONS.

In Bills, Read 1°, 2°, 3°, or 1^a, 2^a, 3^a, Read the First, Second, or Third Time.—In Speeches, 1R., 2R., 3R., Speech delivered on the First, Second, or Third Reading.—*Amendt.*, Amendment.—*Res.*, Resolution.—*Comm.*, Committee.—*Re-Comm.*, Re-Committal.—*Rep.*, Report.—*Consid.*, Consideration.—*Adj.*, Adjournment or Adjourned.—*cl.*, Clause.—*add. cl.*, Additional Clause.—*neg.*, Negatived.—*M. Q.*, Main Question.—*O. Q.*, Original Question.—*O. M.*, Original Motion.—*P. Q.*, Previous Question.—*R. P.*, Report Progress.—*A.*, Ayes.—*N.*, Noes.—*M.*, Majority.—*1st. Div.*, *2nd. Div.*, First or Second Division.—*L.*, Lords.—*C.*, Commons.

When in this Index a * is added to the Reading of a Bill, it indicates that no Debate took place upon that stage of the measure.

When in the Text or in the Index a Speech is marked thus *, it indicates that the Speech is reprinted from a Pamphlet or some authorized Report.

When in the Index a † is prefixed to a Name or an Office (the Member having accepted or vacated office during the Session) and to Subjects of Debate thereunder, it indicates that the Speeches on those Subjects were delivered in the speaker's private or official character, as the case may be.

Some subjects of debate have been classified under the following "General Headings":—
ARMY—NAVY—INDIA—IRELAND—SCOTLAND—PARLIAMENT—POOR LAW—POST OFFICE—METROPOLIS—CHURCH OF ENGLAND—EDUCATION—CRIMINAL LAW—LAW AND JUSTICE—TAXATION, under **WAYS AND MEANS**.

ABERCORN, Duke of
 Arrears of Rent (Ireland), 2R. [272] 1954; Comm. *cl.* 1, [273] 191; Report, *cl.* 1, Amendt. 342, 343; 3R. Amendt. 348; Commons Amendts. to Lords Amendts. Consid. Amendt. 1336

Irish Land Commission—Sub-Commissioners—Judicial Rents, Motion for a Return, [271] 1754

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ABERDARE, Lord
 Electric Lighting, 2R. [273] 576
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ABERDARE, Lord—cont.
 Protection of Person and Property (Ireland) Act, 1881—Release of Mr. Parnell and others confined under the Act, Motion for Papers, [270] 41

Stolen Goods, Comm. *cl.* 3, [271] 1767

Wrexham, Mold, and Connah's Quay Railway (Extensions and Dock), Motion for Re-comm, [270] 11

ABERDEEN, Earl of
 Mercantile Marine—Pouring Oil upon the Sea, [273] 8

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment, 2R. [271] 1377

Railways (Continuous Brakes), 2R. [267] 1258

Shop Hours Regulation, 2R. [266] 1822

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Accrington Extension and Improvement Bill (by Order)

c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
Mar 7, [267] 320
 Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day six months" (*Mr. Hopwood*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn
 Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Ritchie*); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn
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ACLAND, Sir T. D., *Devonshire, N.*
 Agricultural Tenants' Compensation (No. 2), Comm. [271] 1736
 Charity Funds (Metropolis), [272] 1536
 Ireland—Irish Policy of the Government—Release of Mr. Parnell and others, [269] 894

ACLAND, Mr. C. T. D., *Cornwall, E. Div.*
 Army Estimates—Yeomanry Cavalry, [269] 634
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 Prevention of Crime (Ireland), *Consid. cl 14*, [271] 1825
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Admiralty, War Office, and Customs Clerks—Superannuation

Questions, Colonel Makins, an hon. Member;
 Answers, Mr. Gladstone *Mar 2, [266] 1046*

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Adulterated Butter and Milk, Question, Lord Eustace Cecil; Answer, Mr. Dodson *Aug 3, [273] 687*
Lard Cheese, Questions, Mr. R. H. Paget, Mr. Wilbraham Egerton; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain *June 12, [270] 826*; Question, Mr. Wilbraham Egerton; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *June 15, 1275*; Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Mr. Dodson *June 22, [271] 19*
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Native Agent at Cabul—Afzul Khan. Questions, Mr. Onslow; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington *Mar 16, [267] 1003*; *Mar 17, 1146*; *May 22, [269] 1256*
The Subsidy to the Ameer, Question, Mr. E. Stanhope; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington *Mar 17, [267] 1135*; Questions, Mr. E. Stanhope, Mr. Salt; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington *July 6, [271] 1802* (P.P. No. 118)

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The Bay of Tajoura—Assab Bay, Questions, Baron Henry De Worms, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Nov 27, [275] 100*; Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *Nov 28, 216*
Zanzibar—Suppression of the Slave Trade, Question, Mr. Donaldson-Hudson; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *June 2, [269] 1934*; Question, Mr. Gourley; Answer, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman *June 5, [270] 73*

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Cetewayo, Ex-King of Zululand—Visit to this Country, Question, Earl Cadogan; Answer, The Earl of Kimberley *June 27, [271] 527*; Question, Observations, Earl Cadogan; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley; debate thereon *July 3, 1215*;—*Official Reception*, Question, Observations, Lord Norton; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley *Aug 4, [273] 734*;—*Contemplated Restoration*, Question, Observations, The Earl of Milltown; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley; short debate thereon *Aug 15, 1803*
Reported Disturbances, Question, Observations, The Earl of Carnarvon; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley *June 23, [271] 2*

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- Future Position of the Ex-King Cetewayo and Visit to England*, Question, Sir Henry Holland; Answer, Mr. Courtney April 4, 1883; Question, Mr. Onslow; Answers, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney May 2, 1942; Question, Mr. Puleston; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley May 15, 1885; Questions, Mr. Dillwyn; Answers, Mr. Courtney May 25, 1893; Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke June 2, 1935; Question, Mr. D. Grant; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley June 22, 40; Questions, Mr. W. Fowler, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley; Question, Colonel Makins; [no answer] June 26, 400; Questions, Mr. Dawnay, Mr. Gorst, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley June 27, 540; Question, Mr. Gibson; Answer, The Attorney General July 10, 1950
- Contemplated Restoration of the Ex-King*, Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley July 13, 273; Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Aug 10, 1973; Question, Mr. J. G. Hubbard; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Aug 15, 1836; Questions, Mr. Dillwyn, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Oct 27, 287; Questions, Sir Henry Holland, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Nov 2, 651; Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Nov 7, 939; Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Nov 17, 1031; Question, Mr. Dillwyn; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Nov 30, 386

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The Transvaal Government and Montsioa, Question, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answer, Mr. Courtney Mar 16, [267] 991

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Reported Defeat of the Boers, Questions, Mr. Gorst, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Answers, Mr. Courtney Mar 10, [267] 626; Observations, Mr. Courtney; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. Courtney Mar 13, 762

The Boers and the Native Tribes, Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Mr. Courtney Feb 10, [266] 388; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 2, [269] 1935; Question, Mr. Arthur Pease; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Aug 3, [273] 593; Observations, Mr. R. N. Fowler, Mr. Cropper; Reply, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Aug 4, 789; Questions, Mr. R. N. Fowler, Mr. Gorst; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Aug 10, 1381

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Africa (South)—Natal (Mr. Sendall)

Moved, "That this House regrets the indecision of Her Majesty's Government, by which Mr. Sendall was withdrawn from the appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of Natal, to which he had been nominated, and for which, in the opinion of the Colonial Office, he was eminently qualified" (Mr. Robert Fowler) Feb 28, [266] 1869; after short debate, [House counted out]

Africa (South)—Natal—Native Subjects of the Crown

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Aug 3, To leave out from "That," and add "an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty that She will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House, further Papers relating to the policy pursued by the Government of Natal towards the Native subjects of the British Crown" (Sir George Campbell) v. [273] 633; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Africa (South)—Zululand—Cetewayo (Release from Captivity)

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 17, To leave out from "That," and add "an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to release Cetewayo, the Zulu King, from the unjust captivity in which he is now held" (Mr. Gorst) v.. [268] 766; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Amendt. withdrawn

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Africa (West Coast)

Congo, The, Questions, Sir Henry Holland; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke Nov 20, [274] 1706; Nov 21, 1793; Questions, Mr. Jacob Bright; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke Nov 27, [275] 108; Nov 28, 207

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Native Wars, Question, Mr. Slagg; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 12, [269] 556

Occurrences in British Sherbro, Question, Mr. Hopwood; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley Nov 3, [274] 759

AGNEW, Mr. W., Lancashire, S.E.

Education Department—Victoria University (Manchester)—Power to grant Degrees in Medicine, [273] 1136

Agricultural Holdings Act (1875) Amendment Bill

(Mr. Staveley Hill, Mr. Monckton, Mr. Levett)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * July 18 [Bill 242]
2R. [Dropped]

Agricultural Holdings (Law of Distress) Bill

(Mr. Blennerhassett, Mr. James

Howard)

c. Ordered * Feb 8

Read 1^o * Feb 9

[Bill 14]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"

Mar 1, [266] 1875

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add, "it is inexpedient to proceed further with this Bill until further evidence has been taken as to the working of the Law of Distress" (Mr. Salt) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Debate adjourned

Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

Agricultural Holdings, Notices of Removal (Scotland) Bill

(Sir Alexander Gordon, Mr. M'Lagan, Mr. Barclay)

c. Ordered * Feb 8

Read 1^o * Feb 9

[Bill 5]

Read 2^o, after debate Mar 29, [268] 223

Question, Sir Alexander Gordon; Answer, Mr. Ramsay May 15, [269] 663

Committee *—a.p. July 26

Committee; Report Aug 1, [273] 503 [Bill 259]

As amended to be considered [Dropped]

Agricultural Labourers (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Metge, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Callan, Mr. Redmond)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 13

[Bill 66]

2R. [Dropped]

Agricultural Statistics

Aggregate Produce Column, Question, Mr. Rankin; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain June 27, [271] 536

Corn Returns, Question, Colonel Barnes; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain Mar 2, [266] 1946

Imports—General Classified Return, Questions, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain July 3, [271] 1234

Returns, 1882 P.P. [3351]

Agricultural Tenants' Compensation Bill

(Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Guy Dawson, Mr. Poll, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Birbeck, Mr. Stanhope)

c. Ordered * Feb 9

Read 1^o * Feb 10

[Bill 26]

Read 2^o * July 5

Referred to the Select Committee on the Agricultural Tenants' Compensation (No. 2)

Bill July 12

Report of Select Comm. * Aug 1 [No. 334]

Bill to be printed Aug 1

[Bill 261]

Agricultural Tenants' Compensation (No. 2) Bill

(Sir Thomas Adland, Mr. Evans, Mr. Hussey Vivian, Lord Morston, Mr. Duckham, Sir John Kennaway, Mr. Story Maskelyne)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 21

[Bill 80]

Read 2^o * July 5

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Agricultural Tenants' Compensation (No. 2) Bill
—cont.

Order for Committee discharged; Bill referred to a Select Committee, after short debate July 6, [271] 1738

Moved, "That the Select Committee do consist of Twenty-seven Members" July 18, [272] 986

After short debate, Amendt. to leave out "Twenty-seven," and insert "Twenty-nine" (*Mr. Labouchere*) v.; Question proposed, "That 'Twenty-seven,' &c.;" after further short debate, Question put; A. 120, N. 35; M. 85 (D. L. 277)

Main Question put, and agreed to
Committee nominated as follows:—Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. Bulwer, Lord Edward Cavendish, Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Dawnay, Mr. Duckham, Sir William Hart Dyke, Viscount Ebrington, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Gurdon, Mr. Harcourt, Mr. Ileneage, Mr. James Howard, Colonel Kingscote, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Sir Robert Loyd Lindsay, Mr. Marum, Mr. Northcote, Mr. Richard Paget, Mr. Cochran-Patrick, Mr. Pell, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Stanhope, Mr. Story-Maskelyne, Sir Henry Hussey Vivian, and Mr. Wiggin

July 27, Sir Thomas Acland *disch.*, Mr. Acland *added*

Report of Select Comm. * Aug 1 [No. 336]
(Nos. 1 & 2) Special Report [No. 338]

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Agricultural Commission—Cork Butter Market, Question, Mr. Moore; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Aug 10, [273] 1379

Ensilage, Question, Mr. Thorold Rogers; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 21, [274] 1795

Report of the Royal Commission on, Question, Mr. James Howard; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 27, [268] 34; Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Sir William Harcourt July 10, [271] 1947

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Aldershot Camp Roads Bill

(*Mr. Secretary Childers, Sir Arthur Hayter*)
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a. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 27 [Bill 90]
Read 2^o, after debate Mar 17, [269] 941
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l. Read 1^o * (Lord Carrington) Aug 11 (No. 248)
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o," Aug 14, 1868; after short debate, on Question 1 Cont. 13, Not-Cont. 7; M. 6; resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 2^o
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(Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Courtney)

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Moved, "That the Select Committee do consist
of Five Members, Three to be nominated by
the House and Two to be nominated by the
Committee of Selection" (*Lord Frederick*
Cavendish) Mar 24, 1858
Amendt. to leave out "Five," and insert "Six"
(*Mr. Redmond*) v.; Question proposed,
"That 'Five,' &c.;" after short debate,
Amendt. and Motion withdrawn
Moved, "That the Select Committee do consist
of Seven Members" (*Mr. Redmond*); Mo-
tion agreed to
Committee nominated as follows:—Sir George
Balfour, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr. M'Coan,
and Two by the Committee of Selection
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269] Considered, after short debate May 17, 946
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o"
May 18, 1048
Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon
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Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;"
after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn;
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l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Thurlow*) May 19 (No. 98)
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Army (Deserters)

Moved, "That there be laid before this House, Return showing the number of re-enlistments respectively by deserters" (*The Lord Truro*) Mar 28, [268] 136; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Army (India)—Captain J. B. Chatterton, Bengal Staff Corps

Motion for an Address, The Earl of Galloway June 16, [270] 1394; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Army (India)—Military Drafts

Moved for, "Return of the number of non-commissioned officers and soldiers below the age of 20 who have been sent to India from 1st January 1881 to 1st January 1882, giving the designations of the regiments to which they have been respectively supplied"

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after short debate, Motion agreed to (*P.P.* 67)
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Childers Mar 10, [267] 585

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Ordered, That the said Message be taken into
Consideration on Thursday next
Message considered accordingly July 27, 1904
Moved, "That an humble Address be presented
to Her Majesty, thanking Her Majesty for
Her most gracious Message communicating
to this House Her Majesty's intention to
cause the Reserve Force, or such part thereof
as Her Majesty should think necessary, to
be forthwith called out for permanent ser-
vice" (*The Earl Granville*); after short
debate, Motion agreed to, nemine dissen-
siente
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Message to be taken into Consideration To-
morrow
Message considered accordingly July 26, 1903
Moved, "That an humble Address be presented
to Her Majesty, thanking Her Majesty for
Her most Gracious Message communicating
to this House Her Majesty's intention to
cause Her Reserve Force, or such part thereof
as Her Majesty should think necessary, to
be forthwith called out for permanent ser-
vice" (*Mr. Gladstone*); after short debate,
Motion agreed to
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[H.L.] (*The Lord Denman*)

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dered; read 1st * Mar 17 [Bill 105]
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- (Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Secretary Childers, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland)
- c. Motion for Leave (Mr. Gladstone) May 15, 269] 767; after debate, Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o* [Bill 163]
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" May 22, 1268
- Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "it is inexpedient to charge the Consolidated Fund with any payment, except by way of loan, in respect of arrears of rent in Ireland" (Mr. Selater-Booth) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Baron Henry De Worms); after further short debate, Question put; A. 140, N. 290; M. 150 (D. L. 92)
- Original Question again proposed, 1353; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Chaplin); after debate, Question put; A. 135, N. 272; M. 137 (D. L. 93)
- Original Question again proposed, 1367; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Sir Herbert Maxwell); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned
- Debate resumed May 23, 1420; after debate, Question put; A. 296, N. 181; M. 115 (D. L. 98)
- Main Question put, "That the Bill be now read 2^o;" A. 269, N. 157; M. 112
- Div. List, A and N., 1445
- Committee; Report; re-committed for Tomorrow at Two of the clock, after short debate June 22, 181 [Bill 213]
- Order for Committee (on re-comm) read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" July 5, 1514

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- Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "this House, while willing, in case of emergency, to grant money from public funds for purposes which it believes are for the best interests of Ireland, declines to proceed with a measure which imposes taxation for objects which, in its opinion, must tend to demoralize the people of that Country" (Mr. Chaplin) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Debate adjourned
- 271] Debate resumed July 6, 1626; after long debate, Question put; A. 283, N. 203; M. 75
- Div. List, A. and N., 1718
- Main Question proposed, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.;" after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Brodrick); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn
- Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.;" put, and agreed to; Committee—R.P.
- Committee (on re-comm.)—R.P. [First Night] July 10, 1972
- 272] Chairman—R.P. [Second Night] July 11, 35
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- Considered July 20, 1107; Re-committed; Committee—R.P. 1132
- Chairman—R.P. July 21, 1226
- Report; Considered July 21, 1281
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o," 1307
- Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day two months" (Sir Herbert Maxwell); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 283, N. 177; M. 106
- Div. List, A. and N., 1319
- Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 3^o
- l. Read 1^o* (Lord Carlisleford) July 22 (No. 205)
- Read 2^a, after long debate July 27, 1910
- 273] Committee, after debate July 31, 159
- Report, after short debate Aug 1, 331
- Read 3^a and passed, after debate, 347 (No. 213)
- c. Lords Amendts. considered Aug 8, 1150; one disagreed to; Committee appointed, "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to the Amendt.;" List of the Committee, 1197
- Reasons for disagreeing to the Lords Amendt. reported, and agreed to; to be communicated to the Lords
- l. Returned from the Commons with several of the Amendts. agreed to, several agreed to with Amendts., and with Consequential Amendts. to the Bill, and one Amendt. disagreed to, with reasons for such disagreement: The said Amendts. and reasons to be printed, and to be considered on Thursday next Aug 8 (No. 232)
- Orders of the Day postponed Aug 10, 1328
- Commons Amendts. to Lords Amendts., and Commons Consequential Amendts., and reasons for disagreeing to one of the Lords

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- a73] Amends., considered Aug 10, 1838; after debate, Bill returned to the Commons
 c. Moved, "That the Lords Amends. to the Commons Amends. to the Amends. made by the Lords be considered forthwith" (*Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland*) Aug 11, 1810; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Sexton*); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn
 Question again proposed; Motion withdrawn
 Lords Amends. to Commons Amends. to the Amends. made by the Lords considered, and agreed to, after short debate Aug 11, 1824
 l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 47]

Arrears of Rent (Ireland) [Payment of Liabilities]

- c. Resolution considered in Committee and agreed to June 27, [271] 673; reported June 28
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Arrears of Rent (Ireland) [Salaries and Emigration]

- c. Resolution considered in Committee and agreed to July 19, [272] 1060
 Resolution reported, and agreed to, after short debate July 20, 1104

Artillery Ranges Bill

(*Mr. Secretary Childers, The Judge Advocate General, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Mr. Trevelyan*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o April 3 [Bill 125]
 Order for 2R. discharged April 17
 Read 2^o April 21
 Order for Committee discharged May 15, [269] 802; Bill committed to a Select Committee of Seven Members, Four to be nominated by the House, and Three by the Committee of Selection
 And, on May 17, Committee nominated as follows:—*Mr. Acland, Mr. Callan, Sir Arthur Hayter, Viscount Lewisham*, and Three by the Committee of Selection
 May 23, *Mr. Acland disch.*, *Mr. Brown added*
 Report of Select Comm. May 25 [No. 206]
 Bill re-committed May 25
 Committee (on re-comm.); Report June 1
 Considered June 2 [Bill 183]
 Read 3^o June 5
 l. Read 1^o (*Earl of Morley*) June 6 (No. 119)
 Read 2^o June 16
 Report June 22
 Committee; Report June 23
 Read 3^o June 26
 Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxviii]

Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings

Select Committee appointed, "to consider the working of 'The Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings Improvement Act, 1875,' and the amending Act of 1879, with a view of con-

[cont.]

Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings—cont.

sidering how the expense of and the delay and difficulty in carrying out these Acts may be reduced, and also of inquiring into any causes which may have prevented the reconstruction of Dwellings for the Artizan Class to the full extent contemplated and authorised by these Acts, and of recommending such Amendments as may be most expedient for carrying out the full intention of these Acts, and also to consider the working of the Metropolitan Streets Improvement Acts, 1872 and 1877, and of 31 and 32 Vic. c. 130, and 42 and 43 Vic. c. 84" Feb 20

Committee nominated as follows:—*Mr. Arthur Balfour, Mr. Brodrick, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Francis Buxton, Mr. Cropper, Sir Richard Cross, Viscount Emlyn, Mr. Hastings, Sir Henry Holland, Mr. John Holland, Mr. William Holms, Mr. Leamy, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Sir James M'Garel-Hogg, Mr. Rankin, Sir Matthew Ridley, Mr. Torrens, and Sir Sydney Waterlow*

Ordered, That the Minutes of the Evidence taken before the Select Committee on Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings, in Session 1881, be referred to the Committee (*Sir Richard Cross*)

Report of Select Comm. (P.P. No. 235)

Artizans' Dwellings

Legislation, Question, *Sir Stafford Northcote*;
 Answer, *Mr. Shaw Lefevre* July 10, [271] 1956
Metropolis, Question, *Sir R. Assheton Cross*;
 Answer, *Mr. Dodson* Nov 30, [275] 880

Artizans' Dwellings Bill (*Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Secretary Sir William Harcourt*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o July 25 [Bill 255]
 Read 2^o July 31
 Order for Committee read; Moved, "That *Mr. Speaker* do now leave the Chair" Aug 3, 273] 714
 Amendt. To leave out from "That," and add "in the opinion of this House, the cost of carrying out all improvement schemes in the Metropolis under this Act should be defrayed by the Metropolitan Board of Works, and not charged wholly upon the locality" (*Mr. Ritchie*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn
 Main Question, "That *Mr. Speaker, &c.*," put, and agreed to; Committee; Report, 718
 Considered; read 3^o, after short debate Aug 7, 1101
 l. Read 1^o (*Earl of Rosebery*) Aug 8 (No. 231)
 Read 2^o Aug 11, 1489
 Committee; Report Aug 14
 Read 3^o Aug 15
 Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 54]

ASHER, Mr. A. (*Solicitor General for Scotland*), *Elgin Burghs*

Citation Amendment (*Scotland*), Comm. cl. 3, [273] 1618
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a. Ordered; read 1^o *Feb* 24 [Bill 84]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" *May* 9, [269] 382; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Gorst*); after debate, Motion withdrawn

Original Question again proposed; Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o

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(*Mr. Anderson, Mr. Barclay, Mr. McLaren*)

a. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o *Feb* 15 [Bill 71]

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- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 27 [Bill 87]
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(*Colonel Barnes, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Storer*)

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Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

Beer Dealers' Retail Licences Act (1880) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Chaplin, Colonel Kingscote*)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o * July 6 [Bill 229]
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l. Read 1^o * (*Earl Cadogan*) July 13 (No. 192)
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c. Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" July 18, [272] 851
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- University Education (Ireland), 2R. [267] 1630
- Ways and Means—Inland Revenue—Beer and Wine Licences, [274] 859
- Ways and Means, Report, Res. 2, [268] 1420

Bills of Exchange Bill

(*Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Lewis Fry, Sir Hardinge Giffard, Mr. Monk*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 15 [Bill 70]
- Read 2^o, and committed to a Select Committee Feb 20, [266] 1202
- And, on Mar 1, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Baring, Mr. Cohen, Dr. Commins, Mr. Robert Fowler, Mr. Fry, Sir Farrer Herschell, Mr. Jackson, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. R. B. Martin, Sir Charles Mills, Mr. Mulholland, Mr. Robert Reid, Mr. Whitley, and Mr. Williamson
- Mar 24, Mr. Armitstead, Mr. Asher, Mr. Orr Ewing, Mr. Gibson, and Sir Edmund Lechmere added
- Report of Select Comm. * June 21 [No. 244]
- Committee * (on re-comm.)—a.v. June 27
- Committee (on re-comm.) ; Report July 3, [271] 1350
- Considered * July 5 [Bill 211]
- Read 3^o * July 6
- l. Read 1^o * (Lord Bramwell) July 7 (No. 183)
- Read 2^o, after debate July 18, 833
- Order for Committee discharged; Bill referred to a Select Committee, after short debate July 25, [272] 1671
- And, on July 28, the Lords following were named of the Committee:—*Ld. Chancellor, E. Cairns, L. Balfour, L. Penzance, L. Wolverton, L. O'Hagan, L. Coleridge, L. Watson, L. Blackburn, L. Bramwell, and L. Fitzgerald*

[cont.]

Bills of Exchange Bill—cont.

- Report of Select Committee * Aug 10 [No. 233]
- Bill reported * Aug 10 (No. 234)
- Committee *; Report; read 3^a Aug 11
- c. Lords Amendts. Aug 11 [Bill 275]
- l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 61]

Bills of Sale Act (1878) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Monk, Mr. Serjeant Simon*)

- c. Ordered * Feb 8
- Read 1^o * Feb 9 [Bill 8]
- Read 2^o, after debate Mar 8, [267] 393
- Committee *—*r. r.* Mar 13
- Committee—*r. r.* Mar 16, 1113
- Committee; Report Mar 20, 1398
- Considered Mar 27, [268] 117 [Bill 108]
- Read 3^o Mar 30, 427
- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Coleridge*) Mar 31 (No. 60)
- Read 2^a, and referred to a Select Comm., after short debate June 19, [270] 1545
- And, on June 27, the Lords following were named of the Committee:—*Ld. Chancellor, E. Powis, E. Cairns, V. Sherbrooke, L. Clinton, L. Sudeley, L. Monk, L. Coleridge, and L. Bramwell*
- Report of Select Committee * July 21 [No. 189]
- Committee * Aug 1 (No. 203)
- Report * Aug 3
- Read 3^a * Aug 4
- c. Lords Amendts. Aug 4 [Bill 268]
- Consideration of Lords Amendts. Aug 8, [273] 1272
- One disagreed to; Committee appointed "to draw up Reasons to be assigned to the Lords for disagreeing to the Amendt.;" List of the Committee, 1277
- Reasons for disagreeing to the Lords Amendt. reported, and agreed to; to be communicated to the Lords
- l. Commons Amendts. and Reasons Aug 10 (No. 237)
- Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 43]

BIRKBECK, Mr. E., *Norfolk, N.*

- Army—*Norfolk Regiment*, [273] 368
- Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts—Importation of Diseased Cattle, [266] 233, 630
- Fisheries—Appointment of Inspectors, [270] 488; [272] 715
- Fishing Vessels' Lights, Report of the Committee, [269] 1606
- International Fishery Conference—Police of the North Sea, [268] 1809
- Merchant Shipping Acts—Collision between the "*Mayfly*" and "*Valhalla*" off Dungeness, [273] 371
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- Payment of Wages Act, 1880—Fishing Vessels—Desertion of Men, [271] 1597
- Post Office—Weather Forecasts, [271] 205
- South Kensington Museum—Museum of Natural History, [268] 880
- Ways and Means—Financial Statement—Carriage Duties, [268] 1677

Blackburn Improvement Bill (by Order)

- c. Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" (*Sir Charles Forster*) June 19, [270] 1559

Blackburn Improvement Bill—cont.

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "it is inexpedient to proceed with the consideration of the Improvement Bills, or any of them, included in the Reference to the Committee on Sanitary and Police Clauses of March 13th 1882, unless such portions thereof as create local Sanitary or Police Law exceptional to the Law of the Realm be omitted therefrom" (*Mr. Hopwood*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Pugh*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; Amendt. withdrawn

Original Question put, and agreed to; Bill considered

BLAKE, Mr. J. A., *Waterford Co.*

- Army (India)—Roman Catholic Chaplains, [273] 967
- Arrears of Rent (Ireland), Comm. *add. cl.* [272] 997; *Consid. add. cl.* 1116, 1158, 1273
- Canada, Dominion of—Irish Emigration, [272] 1966; [273] 1384
- East India (Expenses of Military Expedition to Egypt), Res. [273] 280, 284
- Educational Endowments (Scotland), Comm. *cl.* 7, [272] 1425
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- Arrears of Rent Act, [274] 1989
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- Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland), 2R. [272] 1170
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- Euphrates Valley Railway, Motion for Papers, [272] 684

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- Parliament—Business of the House (Putting the Question), Res. [268] 348

BLENNERHASSETT, Mr. R. P., *Kerry*

- Agricultural Holdings (Law of Distress), 2R. [266] 1875, 1915
- Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts—Foot-and-Mouth Disease, [268] 1936
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Board Schools (Scotland) Bill

(Sir Herbert Maxwell, Mr. Orr Ewing, Captain Maxwell)

- c. Ordered * Feb 9
 Read 1° Feb 10 [Bill 49]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2°"
 May 3, [269] 1
 Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day six months" (Mr. Anderson); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Amendt. and Motion withdrawn; Bill withdrawn

Boiler Explosions Bill (Mr. Mason, Mr. Burt, Mr. Henry Lee, Mr. Broadhurst)

- c. Ordered * Feb 8
 Read 1° Feb 9 [Bill 4]
 Read 2°, after short debate Feb 22, [266] 1348
 Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Feb 23, 1492; Motion agreed to; Committee—R.P.
 Committee—R.P. Mar 2, 2033
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 Considered * Mar 10 [Bill 100]
 Read 3° May 9
 l. Read 1° (The Earl of Derby) May 11 (No. 85)
 Read 2°, after short debate May 22, [269] 1244
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 Report * June 13
 Read 3° June 15
 c. Lords Amendts. June 20 [Bill 210]
 Lords Amendts. considered, and, after short debate, agreed to June 26, [271] 524
 l. Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 22]

Boiler Explosions [Expenses]

- c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to Mar 2, [266] 2040; reported Mar 3

Boiler Explosions—The Explosion at Brierly Hill

Question, Mr. Hugh Mason; Answer, Sir William Harcourt May 4, [269] 99
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- c. Considered in Committee July 3, [271] 1353;
 Resolution agreed to
 Resolution reported; Bill ordered; read 1° July 4 [Bill 225]
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 Read 2°, after debate July 28, [273] 147
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 Read 3° Aug 4
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 Read 2° Aug 10
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(Mr. Lalor, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Leahy)

- c. Ordered * Feb 8
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Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mar 17, To leave out from "That," and add "an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will be graciously pleased to revoke or alter so much of the Charter as gives an implied sanction to the maintenance of slavery under the protection of the British flag" (*Mr. Gorst v.*, 1148; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.:" after long debate, Question put; A. 125, N. 62; M. 63 (D. L. 51)

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Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mar 24, To leave out from "That," and add "a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the effects which the Tariffs in force in Foreign Countries have upon the principal branches of British Trade and Commerce, and into the possibility of removing, by Legislation or otherwise, any impediment to the fuller development of the manufacturing and commercial industry of the United Kingdom" (*Mr. Ritchie v.*, [267] 1823; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.:" after long debate, Question put; A. 140, N. 89; M. 51 (D. L. 60)

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l. Presented; read 1st May 11 (No. 90)

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- Moved, "That Mr. Salt be a Member of the Select Committee on Canals" (*Mr. Salt*) June 22, [271] 165; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Labouchere*); [House counted out]

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(Mr. Pell, Mr. John Talbot, Mr.

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c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 13 [Bill 62]
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 l. Read 1^o * (*Earl Stanhope*) June 23 (No. 161)
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l. Presented; read 1^o * May 19 (No. 99)
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
 June 22, [271] 4
 After short debate, Amendt. to leave out ("now") and add ("this day three months") (*The Lord Bishop of Exeter*); on Question, that ("now") &c. resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 2^o
 Committee *; Report June 23 (No. 163)
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 Report July 6, 1871
 Read 3^o * July 7
 c. Read 1^o * (*Mr. Beresford Hope*) July 10 [Bill 232]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
 Aug 15, [273] 1918
 Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Dillwyn*); Question put; A. 21, N. 31; M. 10 (D. L. 339)
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269] (*The Earl Granville*) May 8, 315; after
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Moved, "That this House do now adjourn"
(*Mr. Gladstone*) May 8, 320; after short
debate, Motion agreed to

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Motion made, and Question, "That this
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To-morrow, at Nine o'clock in the Evening"
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(*Mr. Richard, Mr. H. Fowler, Mr. George Russell, Mr. Caine, Mr. Woodall*)

c. Considered in Committee Feb 9, [266] 339; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered

Read 1^o Feb 10

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Central Metropolitan Railway Bill (by Order)

c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" (*Mr. Dodds*) April 28, [268] 1644

Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day six months" (*Mr. W. H. Smith*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put, and negatived; words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

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Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying that Her Majesty will cause to be laid on the Table, Copy of the Report of a Committee which has lately inquired into the Channel Tunnel scheme; also copies of any other papers which may exist on the same subject" (*The Viscount Bury*) *July* 20, [272] 1071; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

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c. Ordered * *Feb* 8

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Church of England (Sale of Patronage) Bill (*Mr. Edward Leatham, Mr. Rylands, Mr. George Russell, Mr. William Fowler*)

- c. Ordered * Feb 9
- Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 35]
- 2R. [Dropped]

Church Patronage Bill

(*Mr. Stanhope, Mr. J. G. Talbot, Mr. Stuart-Wortley, Mr. Stanley Leighton*)

- c. Ordered * Feb 9
- Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 53]
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" May 3, [269] 47
- Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "this House, while prepared to abolish all traffic in sacred offices in the National Church, objects to a measure which gives fresh sanction to the sale of advowsons, and would fail to put an end to the scandals of the existing system of patronage" (*Mr. Illingworth*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Debate adjourned
- Bill withdrawn * Aug 1

Churchwardens' Admission Bill

(*Mr. Monk, Sir Gabriel Goldney*)

- c. Ordered * Feb 9
- Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 45]
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" Feb 16, [266] 878; after short debate, Question put; A. 86, N. 20; M. 66 (D. L. 10); Bill read 2^o
- Order for Committee read; Moved, "That this House will, upon Saturday next, resolve itself into the said Committee" July 20, [272] 1172
- Amendt. to leave out "Saturday," and insert "Monday" (*Mr. Harton*) v.; Question put, "That 'Saturday,' &c.;" A. 12, N. 11; M. 1 (D. L. 287)
- Committee [Dropped]

Citation Amendment (Scotland) Bill [H.L.] (*The Lord Monson*)

- l. Presented; read 1^o * July 24 (No. 206)
- Read 2^o * July 28
- Committee *; Report July 31
- Read 3^o * Aug 1

Citation Amendment (Scotland) Bill—cont.

- c. Read 1^o * (*The Lord Advocate*) Aug 4 [Bill 267]
- Read 2^o * Aug 7
- Committee *—R.F. Aug 8
- Committee—R.F. Aug 10, [273] 1485
- Committee; Report Aug 11, 1617
- Moved, "That the Bill be now taken into Consideration" Aug 15, 1852
- Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day three months" (*Mr. Warton*); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 76, N. 6; M. 72 (D. L. 335)
- Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill considered; read 3^o, after short debate
- l. Commons Amendts. Aug 15 (No. 263)
- Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 77]

City of London—The Livery Companies and Technical Education

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[See title *Charity Commission*]

Civil Imprisonment (Scotland) Bill

(*Dr. Cameron, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Fraser Mackintosh*)

- c. Ordered * Feb 8
- Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 19]
- Read 2^o, and committed to a Select Committee, after debate Mar 29, [268] 241
- And, on April 27, Committee nominated as follows:—The Lord Advocate, Colonel Alexander, Mr. Armitstead, Mr. Buchanan, Dr. Cameron, Mr. James Campbell, Mr. Earp, Mr. Orr Ewing, Mr. Andrew Grant, Admiral Sir John Hay, Mr. Compton Lawrance, Mr. Mackintosh, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Mr. Cochran-Patrick, Mr. Ramsay, Mr. Symon, and Mr. Webster
- Report of Select Comm. * July 19 [No. 388]
- Committee * (on re-comm.); Report; read 3^o July 24 [Bill 245]
- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Rosebery*) July 25 (No. 395)
- Read 2^o Aug 3, [273] 566
- Committee *; Report Aug 4
- Read 3^o * Aug 7
- Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 42]

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- Read 2^o * May 12
- Committee * May 15
- Report * May 19 (No. 100)
- Read 3^o * May 22
- c. Lords Amendts. June 1 [Bill 187]
- Moved, "That the Lords Amendts. be now considered" June 6, [270] 361; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Warton); after short debate, Question put; A. 16, N. 38; M. 22 (D. L. 115)
- Original Question put, and agreed to
- l. Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. 15]

Common Prayer (Priestly Absolution) Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord Oranmore and Browne)

- l. Presented; read 1^o * July 25 (No. 209)

Commons

- Select Committee appointed and nominated Mar 2, as follows:—Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Ashton Dilke, Mr. Leveson Gower, Mr. Pell, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Spencer Walpole, and Five Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection
- Report—P.P. 126 139

Commons and Inclosure Acts Amendment Bill

(Mr. Walter James, Mr. Bryce)

- c. Ordered * Feb 9
- Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 33]
- 2R. [Dropped]

Commons Regulation Provisional Orders Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * Mar 30 [Bill 117]
- Read 2^o * April 28
- Report * May 9
- Read 3^o * May 10
- l. Read 1^o * (Lord Rosebery) May 11 (No. 88)
- Read 2^o * May 19
- Committee *; Report May 22
- Read 3^o * June 1
- Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. xxvii]

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Companies' Acts, 1862 & 1867—Directors of Companies

Question, Mr. P. Martin; Answer, The Attorney General June 2, [269] 1940

Conservative Loan Societies

Questions, Mr. M'Laren, Mr. Gorst, Mr. Labouchere, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answers, The Attorney General Nov 24, [275] 13

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill

(Mr. Playfair, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)

- c. Resolution in Committee Aug 11
Resolution reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o Aug 12
Read 2^o Aug 14
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 15, [273] 1875; after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Committee, 1904
- Mr. Callan, Member for the County of Louth, having been Named by the Chairman for having disregarded the authority of the Chair Motion made, and Question put, "That Mr. Callan be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting" (Mr. Gladstone); A. 58, N. 3; M. 55
Whereupon the Chairman left the Chair in order to report the said Resolution to the House
- Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Playfair reported to Mr. Speaker that Mr. Callan had been Named by him to the Committee as disregarding the authority of the Chair, and that the Committee had resolved that Mr. Callan be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting
- Mr. Speaker thereupon forthwith put the Question, "That Mr. Callan be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting;" A. 60, N. 3; M. 57
- Mr. Callan withdrew accordingly
- House again in Committee; after short time spent therein, Bill reported
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o" Aug 16, 1920; after debate, Question put; A. 57, N. 4; M. 53 (D. L. 340); Bill passed
- l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) Aug 16
Read 2^o; Committee negatived; read 3^o Aug 17
Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 71]

Consolidated Fund (No. 1) Bill

(Mr. Playfair, Lord Frederick Cavendish, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer)

- c. Resolution in Committee Feb 27
Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o Mar 1
Read 2^o Mar 2
Committee*; Report Mar 3
Read 3^o Mar 6
- l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) Mar 7
Read 2^o; Committee negatived Mar 9
Read 3^o Mar 10
Royal Assent Mar 13 [45 Vict. c. 1]

Consolidated Fund (No. 2) Bill

(Mr. Playfair, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Frederick Cavendish)

- c. Resolutions in Committee* Mar 17
Resolutions reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o Mar 20
Read 2^o Mar 21
Committee*; Report Mar 23
Read 3^o Mar 24
- l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) Mar 24
Read 2^o; Committee negatived; read 3^o Mar 25
Royal Assent Mar 29 [45 Vict. c. 4]

Consolidated Fund (No. 3) Bill

(Mr. Playfair, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Arthur Hayter)

- c. Resolutions in Committee* May 4
Resolutions reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered* May 5
Read 1^o May 8
Read 2^o May 9
Committee*; Report May 10
Read 3^o May 11
- l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) May 12
Read 2^o; Committee negatived May 15
Read 3^o May 16
Royal Assent May 19 [45 Vict. c. 8]

Consolidated Fund (No. 4) Bill

(Mr. Playfair, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Courtney)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o July 10
Read 2^o July 11
Committee*; Report July 13
Read 3^o July 14
- l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) July 17
Read 2^o July 18
Committee*; Report July 20
Read 3^o July 21
Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 28]

Contagious Diseases Acts

Devonport, Question, Mr. Stansfeld; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Dec 1, [275] 496

Report of the Metropolitan Police for 1881—Withdrawal of Licences from Public-houses and Beer-houses, Question, Mr. Dick-Peddie; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Aug 9, [273] 1279

Contagious Diseases Acts

Select Committee appointed, "to inquire into the Contagious Diseases Acts, 1866—1869, their Administration, Operation, and Effect," Feb 23

Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Stansfeld (Chairman), Mr. Cavendish Bentinck, General Burnaby, Mr. Burt, Dr. Cameron, Mr. Cobbold, Viscount Crichton, Colonel Digby, Dr. Farquharson, Mr. William Fowler, Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Osborne Morgan, Mr. Ernest Noel, Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Colonel Tottenham, Mr. Hanbury-Tracy, and Sir Henry Wolf
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Contagious Diseases Acts Repeal Bill

(*Mr. Stansfeld, Mr. William Fowler, Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. P. A. Taylor*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 13 [Bill 64]
Order for 2R. read July 19, [272] 1019
Moved, "That Strangers be ordered to withdraw" (*Mr. Callan*); Question put; A. 86, N. 173; M. 137 (D. L. 280)
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o," 1021
Previous Question proposed, "That that Question be now put" (*Mr. Childers*); after short debate, Previous Question put, and negatived

Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts

Dairies, &c. Order, 1879—*Milk*, Question, Lord George Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Mundella May 23, [269] 1249

Foot-and-Mouth Disease, Question, Colonel Walrond; Answer, Mr. Mundella Mar 17, [267] 1141; Questions, Mr. Blennerhassett, Mr. Chaplin; Answers, Mr. Mundella May 2, [268] 1938; Question, Mr. Dawney; Answer, Mr. Mundella May 11, [269] 468; Question, Sir Trevor Lawrence; Answer, Mr. Mundella Nov 28, [275] 222

Holbrook, Suffolk, Question, Colonel Kingscote; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 27, [266] 1893

Importation of Diseased Cattle from Portugal, Question, Mr. Birkbeck; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 9, [266] 233; Questions, Mr. Birkbeck, Colonel Dawney; Answers, Mr. Mundella Feb 14, 630

Infested Areas, Question, Mr. James Howard; Answer, Mr. Mundella July 27, [272] 1975; —*Returns of*, Question, Mr. Hussey Vivian; Answer, Mr. Mundella Mar 27, [268] 29

Pleuro-pneumonia at Preston, Sussex, Question, Mr. Montagu Scott; Answer, Mr. Mundella June 26, [271] 399

Prosecution at Sleaford, Question, Mr. Heneage; Answer, Mr. Mundella June 12, [270] 808

Restrictions on the Movement of Cattle, Question, Mr. Alderman W. Lawrence; Answer, Mr. Mundella April 24, [268] 1251

Salford Cattle Market, Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Mundella Mar 2, [266] 1938

Slaughter of Foreign Cattle at Crews—Intended Abattoirs, Question, Mr. Henry Tollemache; Answer, Mr. Mundella Mar 24, [267] 1816; —*Crews Cattle Market*, Question, Mr. Knowles; Answer, Mr. Mundella Mar 30, [268] 303

Swine Fever, Question, Mr. James Howard; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 27, [266] 1891

The Scheduled Counties, Questions, Sir Walter B. Barttelot, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers, Mr. Mundella Feb 16, [266] 783

Contumacious Clerks Bill

(*Mr. Lloyd, Baron De Ferrières, Mr. Hussey Vivian, Sir Thomas Chambers, Mr. Abel Smith, Mr. Greer, Mr. Cecil Forester*)

- c. Considered in Committee Feb 9, [266] 340; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered*

Contumacious Clerks Bill—cont.

Read 1^o Feb 10 [Bill 41]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" May 9, [269] 875

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "till the Royal Commission now sitting on Ecclesiastical Courts shall have reported, it is inexpedient to proceed with any Bill dealing with the discipline of the Clergy" (*Colonel Makins*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Attorney General*); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned
Bill withdrawn* Aug 4

Conveyancing Bill [H.L.] (*The Earl Cairns*)

l. Presented; read 1^o Feb 20 (No. 20)
Read 2^o Mar 7

Committee; Report, after short debate Mar 14, [267] 870

Read 3^o Mar 28

c. Read 1^o (*Mr. Henry Fowler*) Mar 31 [Bill 121]
Read 2^o, and committed to a Select Committee, after short debate May 25, [269] 1692

And, on June 8, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Brodrick, Dr. Commins, Sir Richard Cross, Mr. Davey, Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr. William Fowler, Mr. Lewis Fry, Mr. Gibson, Sir Harding Giffard, Mr. Goldney, Mr. Gregory, The Judge Advocate General, Mr. Compton Lawrence, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Macnaghten, Mr. Patrick Martin, Mr. Meldon, Mr. Hinde Palmer, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson, and Mr. Whitley

Report of Select Committee July 20 [No. 276]

Committee* (*on re-comm.*) July 24 [Bill 246]

Committee* (*on re-comm.*); Report; read 3^o July 27

l. Commons Amendts. July 28 (No. 211)
Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 39]

**Convict Labour and Harbours of Refuge—
Report of the Committee**

Questions, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Webster, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Courtney Nov 10, [274] 1186

Coolie (Indian) Labour in Queensland

Question, Mr. Cropper; Answer, Mr. Courtney Mar 17, [267] 1141

Coolies (Indian) at La Réunion

Questions, Sir George Campbell; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 9, [267] 452; Question, Mr. Cropper; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington May 23, [269] 1400; Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington June 19, [270] 1603

COOPE, Mr. O. E., *Middlesex*

Science and Art—National Gallery, [270] 1262;—Hamilton Palace Collection, 1274

Cooper's Hill College

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 21, To leave out from "That," and add "a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the working and expense of Cooper's Hill College, and to report if it is desirable, for the public service, to retain the present system, or whether any and, if so, what changes and modifications should be made" (*Mr. Gibson*) v., [268] 1111; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 78, N. 27; M. 51 (D. L. 63)
New Scheme of Management (*P.F.* 60)

Copyhold Enfranchisement Bill

(*Mr. Waugh, Mr. George Howard, Mr. Stafford Howard, Mr. Ainsworth, Mr. Ferguson*)
c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 10 [Bill 58]
2R. discharged * June 26

Copyhold Enfranchisement (No. 2) Bill

c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Waugh*) June 26, [271] 52; [House counted out]

Copyright—Legislation

Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain May 22, [269] 1255

Copyright (Musical Compositions) Bill

(*Mr. Gorst, Mr. Arthur Balfour, Mr. Beresford Hope, Viscount Folkestone*)
c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Gorst*) May 9, [269] 354; Motion agreed to; Bill ordered *
Read 1^o * May 12 [Bill 161]
Read 2^o * June 14
Committee; Report June 19, [270] 1715
Considered *; read 3^o June 20
l. Read 1^o * (*Earl Cadogan*) June 22 (No. 159)
Read 2^a, after short debate July 14, [272] 428
Committee * July 21
Report * July 24 (No. 204)
Read 3^a * July 25
c. Lords Amendts. Aug 1 [Bill 257]
l. Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 40]

Copyright (Works of Fine Art, &c.) Bill

(*Mr. Hastings, Viscount Sandon, Mr. Hanbury-Tracy, Sir Gabriel Goldney, Mr. Agnew*)
c. Ordered; read 1^o * Mar 30 [Bill 119]
Read 2^o * May 9
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" May 17, [269] 948; after short debate, Debate adjourned
Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Hastings June 5, [270] 71
Adjourned Debate on going into Committee [Dropped]

CORBET, Mr. W. J., Wicklow Co.

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[271] 1160; cl. 24, Motion for reporting
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Corn Returns Bill

(Colonel Barne, General Burnaby)

c. Ordered * Feb 22

Read 1° * Feb 23

[Bill 83]

2R. [Dropped]

Corn Returns (No. 2) Bill

(Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. John Holmes)

c. Ordered; read 1° * June 6 [Bill 193]

Read 2°, after short debate June 8, [270] 610

Moved, "That this House will, upon Monday
next, resolve itself into the Committee on
the Bill"Amendt. to leave out all the words after
"That," and add "the Bill be referred to a
Select Committee" (Mr. John Talbot);
Question, "That the words, &c." put, and
agreed toMain Question put, and agreed to; Bill com-
mitted for Monday next

Committee *—R.F. June 13

Committee *—R.F. June 26

Committee *; Report June 29

Considered *; read 3° July 7

l. Read 1° * (Lord Sudeley) July 10 (No. 187)

Read 2°, after short debate July 13, [272] 257

Committee * July 14

Report * July 17

Read 3° * July 18

Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 37]

Corn Returns (No. 2) [Expenses]c. Resolution considered in Committee, and
agreed to June 27, [271] 673**Corporations, Unreformed—Legislation**Question, Mr. Severne; Answer, Mr. Hibbert
Feb 17, [266] 981**Corrupt Practices at Elections Act—The
Magistracy—Mr. Cheney Garfit**Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Sir H. Drummond
Wolff; Answers, The Attorney General
Mar 30, [268] 296**Corrupt Practices (Disfranchisement)
Bill** (Mr. Attorney General, Secretary

Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1° * Mar 30 [Bill 118]

Suspended Boroughs, Question, Mr. Lewis;
Answer, The Marquess of Hartington[268] April 20, 1035; Question, Sir Michael
Hicks-Beach; Answer, The Marquess of
Hartington April 28, 1784**Corrupt Practices (Disfranchisement) Bill—cont.**2R. deferred, after short debate May 9, [269]
374

Bill withdrawn * Aug 10

**Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elec-
tions) Bill** (Mr. Attorney General,

Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1° * Aug 4 [Bill 265]

Moved "That the Bill be now read 2°"
[273] Aug 5, 914Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon
this day three months" (Mr. Warton); Ques-
tion proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after
short debate, Question put, and agreed to;
main Question put, and agreed to; Bill
read 2°

Committee; Report; read 3° Aug 11, 1601

l. Read 1° * (Lord Rosebery) Aug 14 (No. 251)

Read 2° *; Committee negatived Aug 15

Read 3° * Aug 16

Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 68]

CORRY, Mr. J. P., BelfastCustoms—New Warehousing Scheme, [267]
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Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Comm. cl. 5,
[270] 1076Protection of Person and Property (Ireland)
Act, 1881—Stewart, Edmund, [270] 1602

University Education (Ireland), 2R. [267] 1619

COTTESLOE, LordMercantile Marine—Pouring Oil upon the
Sea, [273] 9**COTTON, Mr. Alderman W. J. R., London**Customs and Inland Revenue, Comm. cl. 6,
[273] 238London River-side Fish Market—Lords
Amendts. Consid. [271] 1933Navy—Island of Cyprus—Larnaca Inquiry,
[269] 1606Treaty of Berlin—Article X.—The Varna
Railway, [274] 1915**County Boundaries**Moved, "That an humble Address be presented
to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty to
issue a Royal Commission to inquire into
the best means of adjusting the boundaries
of counties in England and Wales" (The
Earl Beauchamp) May 15, [269] 653; after
short debate, Motion withdrawn**County Courts Act (1867) Amendment
Bill** (Mr. Henry H. Fowler, Mr.

Monk, Mr. Reid)

c. Ordered; read 1° * May 1 [Bill 140]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2°"

May 15, [269] 803; after short debate, Moved,

"That the Debate be now adjourned" (Sir
Henry Fletcher); Motion agreed to; Debate
adjourned

Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

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County Courts (Costs and Salaries) Bill

Formerly—

County Courts (Advocates' Costs) Bill

(*Mr. Hastings, Sir Eardley Wilmot, Mr. Staveley Hill, Mr. Rowley Hill*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 1 [Bill 188]
Read 2^o, after debate June 5, [270] 217
Committee*; Report Aug 7
Considered; read 3^o, after short debate Aug 8,
[273] 1272
- l. Read 1^o* (*The Lord Chancellor*) Aug 10
Read 2^o* Aug 11 (No. 240)
Committee*; Report; read 3^o Aug 14
- c. Lords Amends. considered, and agreed to
Aug 14, 1795
- l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 57]

County Courts [Salaries and Expenses of Examiners of Accounts]

- c. Resolution considered in Committee June 9,
[270] 772
Resolution reported, and agreed to June 12
Ordered, That it be an Instruction to the
Committee on the County Courts (Advocates'
Costs) Bill, That they have power to make
provision therein, pursuant to the said
Resolution

County Courts (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. Findlater, Mr. Givan, Mr. Patrick Smyth, Mr. Thomas Dickson*)

- c. Ordered* Feb 8
Read 1^o* Feb 9 [Bill 18]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o."
267] Mar 15, 1888; Moved, "That the Debate be
now adjourned" (*Mr. Gibson*); after short
debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate
adjourned
- 269] Adjourned Debate resumed May 4, 217;
after short debate, Question put, and agreed
to; Bill read 2^o
- . Order for Committee read May 15, 805
Ordered, That it be an Instruction to the Com-
mittee, that they have power to make provi-
sion for the extension of the Equity jurisdic-
tion of the Courts (*Mr. Findlater*); Com-
mittee—R.P.
- . Committee; Report May 18, 1052 [Bill 169]
Order for Consideration, as amended, read
May 22, 1396; after short debate, Moved,
"That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Arthur O'Connor*); Motion agreed to; Con-
sideration, as amended, deferred
- . Considered May 25, 1692
Read 3^o* May 26
- l. Read 1^o* (*Lord O'Hagan*) June 1 (No. 105)
270] Read 2^o, after short debate June 19, 1556
Committee* June 27 (No. 168)
Report* July 6
Read 3^o* July 7
Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 29]

County Government Bill

*Local Option, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson;
Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 28, [268] 1678*

County Government (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. Finigan, Major Nolan, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Metge, Mr. Molloy*)

c. Ordered* Feb 8

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- †Africa (South)—Basutoland, [266] 249, 337,
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- †Indabeximbi, [267] 591
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- †Africa (South)—Natal (*Mr. Sendall*), Res. [266]
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- Arklow Harbour, 3R. [269] 1050
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†Australia (Western)—Free Emigration, [268] 1104

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cl. 5, [273] 223, 225, 228, 229; cl. 6, 230,
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Criminal Law Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Hopwood, Mr. Charles Russell, Mr. Meldon, Hon. Arthur Elliot, Mr. Arnold, Mr. Broadhurst*)

- c. Ordered * *Feb 8*
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Read 2^o, after short debate *Mar 8*, [267] 402
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Criminal Lunatics Bill

(*Mr. Findlater, Mr. Dillwyn*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * *June 5* [Bill 192]
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Criminal Procedure Bill—formerly

Criminal Law Amendment (No. 2) Bill

(*Mr. Gorst, Mr. Arthur Balfour*)

- c. Ordered * *Feb 9*
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Cruelty to Animals Bill

(Mr. Anderson, Mr. Samuel Morley, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Passmore Edwards, Mr. Buchanan)

c. Ordered; read 1^o June 15 [Bill 206]

Moved, "That the Bill be read 2^o To-morrow"
273] Aug 4, 888

Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," and insert "upon Monday next" (Mr. Warton) v.;

Question put, "That 'To-morrow,' &c.;" A. 20, N. 27; M. 7 (D. L. 315)

Words inserted; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Moved, "That the Bill be read 2^o To-morrow"
Aug 11, 1623

Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," and insert "upon Monday next" (Mr. Warton) v.;

Question proposed, "That 'To-morrow,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put, and

agreed to; main Question put, and agreed to

. Order for 2R. read Aug 12, 1667 [House counted out]

Cruelty to Animals (England)

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The Bimetallic Conference at Paris, Question, Mr. A. J. Balfour; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington June 5, [270] 75; Question, Mr. Briggs; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington June 12, 829

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Customs and Inland Revenue Bill

(Mr. Playfair, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Frederick Cavendish)

c. Ordered; read 1^o April 25 [Bill 140]
272] 2R. deferred, after short debate July 11,

187
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"

. July 13, 404

Customs and Inland Revenue Bill—cont.

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "in the opinion of this House, the financial

arrangements comprised in the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill will not be satisfactory

unless provision is therein made for giving immediate relief to the ratepayers from the

incidence of rates levied for the maintenance of main roads in England" (Mr. Harcourt)

v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 149,

N. 131; M. 18 (D. L. 256)

Main Question proposed, "That the Bill be now read 2^o;" after short debate, main

Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
Committee; Report July 14 [Bill 239]

Committee (on re-comm.) deferred, after short
272] debate July 27, 2114

Order for Committee (on re-comm.) read;
Moved, "That Mr. Spenser do now leave

273] the Chair" July 28, 43; after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Committee—

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Committee (on re-comm.); Report July 31,

218
Considered Aug 2, 559

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o"
Aug 3, 709

Amendt. to leave out "now read 3^o," and insert "re-committed" (Mr. Warton) v.;

Amendt. withdrawn
Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 3^o

l. Read 1^o (Earl Granville) Aug 4
Read 2^o; Committee negatived Aug 7

Read 3^o Aug 8
Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 41]

Customs and Inland Revenue Buildings (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. John Holms, Lord Richard Grosvenor)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 10 [Bill 166]

Read 2^o May 18

Committee; Report; read 3^o June 13

l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) June 15 (No. 142)

Read 2^o June 20

Committee; Report June 22

Read 3^o June 23

Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 17]

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- c.* Observations, General Sir George Balfour ;
Reply, Mr. Speaker *June 27*, [271] 532
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
(*Mr. Freshfield*) *July 18*, [272] 873
- Amend.* to leave out from "That," and add
"it is not desirable to proceed with this
Private Harbour Bill until Government
have made known their final decision,—
about the formation in Dover Bay of the
long contemplated Public, Military, and
Naval Harbour,—as to their intentions about
granting, in aid of the proposed private
work, money grants, loans, subsidies, and
tolls,—the use of convict labour, materials,
lands, shores, and the use of the Admiralty
Pier ; also, to what inquiry the proposed
work will be subjected, as to the sufficiency
of the named capital and works to form and
complete a private harbour which will fulfil
the conditions set forth in the Petition of
the promoters of this undertaking" (*General
Sir George Balfour*) *v.* ; Question proposed,
"That the words, &c.;" after debate,
Amend. withdrawn
- Original Question put, and agreed to ; Bill
read 2^o
- Moved, "That, in the case of the Dover
Harbour Bill, Standing Orders 84, 214, 215,
and 239 be suspended, and that the Bill be
taken into consideration To-morrow, pro-
vided amended prints shall have been pre-
viously deposited" (*Sir Charles Forster*)
July 27, 1958 ; after short debate, Question
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- Bill considered *July 31*, [273] 201
- Moved, "That Standing Orders 223 and 243
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read 3^o" (*Sir Charles Forster*)

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Dover Harbour Bill—cont.

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "it is not desirable to confer on the Dover Harbour Board the powers sought for in this Bill, to construct a Harbour in Dover Bay, because this Board, by its constitution, is not suited for supervising or managing a great national work; and, finally, that there are important public rights involved in this objectionable scheme, which will be seriously injured by this Bill being passed" (*General Sir George Balfour*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put, and agreed to
Main Question put, and agreed to (Queen's Consent signified); Bill read 3°

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(*Mr. John Holms, Lord Frederick Cavendish*)
c. Ordered; read 1° * *Mar 2* [Bill 94]
Read 2° * *Mar 14*
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l. Read 1° * (*Lord Thurlow*) *Mar 27* (No. 51)
Read 2° * *April 21*
Committee *; Report *April 24*
Read 3° * *April 25*
Royal Assent *April 28* [45 *Vict. c. ii*]

Dublin City (Highways) Bill

(*Dr. Lyons, Mr. Maurice Brooks*)
c. Ordered; read 1° * *Feb 27* [Bill 88]
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c. Resolutions in Committee * *Mar 23*
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Ecclesiastical and Mortuary Fees—cont.

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And, on April 3, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Brinton, Sir Henry Fletcher, Viscount Folkestone, Sir Alexander Gordon, Mr. Beresford Hope, The Judge Advocate General, Sir Edmund Lechmere, Mr. Stanley Leighton, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Richard

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Moved, "That the Education Code for 1883 be referred to a Committee to Consider whether it might not be possible more effectually to carry out its professed intention of simplification of the Code, and remove the serious defects in the mode of distribution of the grants in aid, and prevent the perpetual changes against which complaints increasingly come from those engaged in the work of national elementary education" (*The Lord Norton*) May 19, [269] 1087; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Educational Endowments (Scotland) Bill (*Mr. Mundella, The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland*)

c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Mundella*) May 1, 268] 1916; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o * [Bill 147]
Question, *Mr. Dick-Peddie*; Answer, *Mr. 271] Mundella* July 6, 1608
272] 2R. deferred, after short debate July 13, 403
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" July 15, 682
Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Colonel Alexander*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn
Original Question again proposed, 648; after short debate, original Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That this House will, upon Saturday next, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Lord Richard Grosvenor*) July 20, 1160
Amendt. to leave out "Saturday," and insert "Monday" (*Colonel Alexander*) v.; Question proposed, "That 'Saturday,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 130, N. 36; M. 94 (D. L. 283)
Main Question put, and agreed to
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That *Mr. Speaker* do now leave the Chair" July 22, 1340
Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add the abolition of free primary education is quite as undesirable as the endowment of secondary education is desirable, and that no Bill dealing with Educational Endowments in Scotland can be deemed satisfactory which, while fettering the discretion of Commissioners appointed under it as to doles, representation, areas, and other points, leaves them power to appropriate to other uses the revenues of a class of free schools affording good elementary education to thousands of working class children" (*Dr.*

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Cameron) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 89, N. 19; M. 70 (D. L. 292)
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Read 3^o * Aug 14 (No. 239)
c. Lords Amendt. Aug 14 [Bill 277]
Lords Amendt. considered, and, after debate, agreed to Aug 15, 1859
l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 59]

Educational Endowments (Scotland) [Salaries and Expenses]

c. Resolution considered in Committee, and agreed to July 18, [272] 972; reported July 19

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Moved, "That there be laid before this House, copy of any public correspondence which has passed between Sir Edward Malet and Sir Auckland Colvin and Mr. Wilfred Blunt" (*The Lord Lamington*) June 26, [271] 372; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

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- The Review in St. James's Park*, Questions, Mr. Schreiber, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Sir Arthur Hayter
- 274] Nov 13, 1304; Question, Lord Claud Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Childers Nov 14, 1406; Questions, Colonel Dawnay, Mr. Tottenham; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Nov 16, 1555; Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Mr. Childers Nov 17, 1635; Question, Mr. Schreiber; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, 1644; Question, Mr. R. N. Fowler; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, 1703

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Resolutions moved, and, after debate, agreed to Sir G. J. Wolseley's Letter, in reply, communicated by The Lord Chancellor Dec 2, [275] 519

The said letter was ordered to lie on the Table, and to be entered on the Journals

Egypt—Egyptian Budget—Policy of Her Majesty's Government

Amendt. on 3R. of Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill Aug 16, To leave out from “That,” and add “this House, before sanctioning the Appropriation of the Supplies for the year, requests an assurance from Her Majesty's Government that they will take immediate steps to ascertain from the ‘de facto’ Egyptian Military Authorities, whether they will lay down their arms on being guaranteed the right of voting their own Budget, which they demanded last January” (*Sir Wilfrid Lawson*) *v.*, [273] 1929; Question proposed, “That the words, &c. ;” after debate, Question put, and agreed to

Egypt—Employment of Her Majesty's Forces

Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Sir 274] Charles W. Dilke *Oct 26*, 165; *Notices, Sir Stafford Northcote Nov 6*, 842; *Nov 7*, 957; *Ministerial Statement, Mr. Gladstone Nov 14*, 1406; short debate thereon; Question, Sir Henry Tyler; Answer, Mr. Childers *Nov 16*, 1530; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. Childers *Nov 17*, 1643

Conduct of the Opposition, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Sir Stafford Northcote *Nov 6*, [274] 806

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Egypt (International Tribunals)

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mar 13, To leave out from “That,” and add “it is inexpedient to make, or renew on expiry, engagements by which Foreign Governments may have a claim to insist on the enforcement of private debts against natives of Egypt, the transfer of lands, vexatious sanitary regulations, and other demands, in supersession of the autonomous legislation and government of the country; excepting only provision for the free use of the Suez Canal as an International commercial waterway” (*Sir George Campbell*) *v.*, [267] 763; Question proposed, “That the words, &c. ;” after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Egypt (Political Affairs)—Policy of Her Majesty's Government

Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Aug 11*, [273] 1528

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Aug 15, To leave out from “That,” and add “this House condemns Her Majesty's Government for their neglect and mistakes which have brought about the War in Egypt, and especially for the Bombardment of Alexandria without a landing force sufficient to have saved life and property, and considers that the Foreign Policy of the Government has alienated the Allies, and weakened the influence and power of the Country” (*Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett*) *v.*, [273] 1875; Question proposed, “That the words, &c. ;” after debate, Question put, and agreed to

Observations, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Reply, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 16, [273] 1959

Egypt—War in Egypt

Amendt. on Committee of Supply July 25, To leave out from “That,” and add “this House, while ready to vote whatever Supplies may be necessary for the protection of the Khedive and the security of the Suez Canal, is not prepared, having regard to the position of England as a great Mussulman Power, to enter upon a War for the restoration of the authority of the Khedive in Egypt, unless in conjunction with the Forces of the Sultan.”

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Egypt and Italy—The Bay of Assab

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268] April 20, 980; Question, Earl De La Warr;
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270] Mr. Speaker June 16, 1268; Personal Explanation, Sir Charles W. Dilke; Observations, Baron Henry De Worms June 16,
1423; Questions, Baron Henry De Worms; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke June 19,
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Questions, Mr. W. E. Forster; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Nov 17, [274] 1642

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(*Colonel Nolan, Mr. O'Shea, Mr. Justin M'Carthy, Mr. Lalor, Mr. Martin, Mr. Dickson, Mr. Findlater, Mr. Lea, Mr. Moore, Mr. Biggar, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Whitcorth*)

c. Motion for Leave (*Colonel Nolan*) objected to; Motion postponed June 13, [270] 1111
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ton June 14, 1127
Ordered; read 1^o * June 14 [Bill 202]
2R. [Dropped]

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Election of Representative Peers (Ireland) Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl of Belmore*)

l. Presented; read 1^o * June 13 (No. 137)
Read 2^o * June 19
Committee *; Report June 20
Read 3^o * June 22
c. Read 1^o * June 26 [Bill 216]
Read 2^o * July 6
Committee *; Report; read 3^o July 7
l. Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 26]

Electoral Law—Legislation

Questions, Mr. Biggar, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answers, The Attorney General Nov 27, [275] 115

Electric Lighting Bill

(*Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Evelyn Ashley*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * April 3 [Bill 122]
Read 2^o, and committed to a Select Committee
268] April 17, 867
And, on April 19, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Boord, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. William Fowler, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Molloy, Mr. Henry Northcote, Mr. Slagg, Mr. Whitley, and Six Members by the Committee of Selection
Report of Select Comm. * June 12 [No. 227]
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That this House will resolve itself into the said
272] Committee upon Saturday" July 13, 417
Amendt. to leave out "Saturday," and insert "Monday next" (*Colonel Makins*) v.; Question proposed, "That 'Saturday,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 130, N. 109; M. 21 (D. L. 257); after further short debate, main Question put, and agreed to
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" July 15, 565
Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "it is undesirable to retain in the Bill the novel powers proposed to be given to the Board of Trade to grant licences to local authorities, companies, or persons, enabling them to exercise powers which have hitherto only been granted by Act of Parliament, or Provisional Order confirmed by Act of Parliament, and the power given to local authorities under Clauses five and six, and other

[cont.]

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Electric Lighting Bill—cont.

- parts of the Bill, to raise money on the credit of local rates, without the consent of the ratepayers, for the purpose of competing with private capital, are contrary to every principle hitherto recognized by the Legislature, and that no Bill containing such powers will be acceptable to this House" (*Colonel Makins*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn
- Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to; Committee; Report [Bill 200]
- Read 3^o * July 28
- l. Read 1^a * (*Lord Sudeley*) July 28 (No. 212)
- 273] Read 2^a, after short debate Aug 3, 567
- Committee Aug 8, 1105
- Report * Aug 10 (No. 229)
- Read 3^a * Aug 11
- c. Lords Amendts. Aug 11 [Bill 273]
- Lords Amendts. considered, and, after short debate, agreed to Aug 14, 1779
- l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 56]

Elementary Education Provisional Orders Confirmation (Finchley, &c.) Bill [H.L.]
(*The Lord President*)

- l. Presented; read 1^a*, and referred to the Examiners April 20 (No. 63)
- Read 2^a * May 2
- Committee *; Report June 19
- Read 3^a * June 20
- c. Read 1^o * June 28 [Bill 219]
- Read 2^o * July 4
- Report * July 17
- Read 3^o * July 18
- Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cxxxix]

Elementary Education Provisional Order Confirmation (London) Bill [H.L.]
(*The Lord Sandhurst*)

- l. Presented; read 1^a*, and referred to the Examiners Mar 30 (No. 56)
- Read 2^a * April 24
- Committed: The Committee to be proposed by the Committee of Selection May 1
- And, on May 4, the Lords following were appointed:—E. Harewood, E. Ducie (Chairman), L. Clifford of Chudleigh, L. Templemore, and L. Hylton
- Report of Select Committee * May 9
- Committee * May 19
- Report * May 22
- Read 3^a * June 1
- c. Read 1^o * June 6 [Bill 195]
- Read 2^o * June 12
- Report * July 13
- Considered * July 14
- Read 3^o * July 17
- Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cxli]

Elementary Education Provisional Orders Confirmation (West Ham, &c.) Bill [H.L.]
(*The Lord Sandhurst*)

- l. Presented; read 1^a*, and referred to the Examiners Mar 30 (No. 55)
- Read 2^a * April 24
- Committed: The Committee to be proposed by the Committee of Selection May 1

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Elementary Education Provisional Orders Confirmation (West Ham, &c.) Bill—cont.

- And, on May 4, the Lords following were appointed:—E. Harewood, E. Ducie (Chairman), L. Clifford of Chudleigh, L. Templemore, and L. Hylton
- Report of Select Committee * May 9
- Committee * May 19
- Report * May 22
- Read 3^a * June 1
- c. Read 1^o * June 6 [Bill 196]
- Read 2^o * June 12
- Report * June 26
- Considered * June 29
- Read 3^o * June 30
- l. Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cii]

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- Entail (Scotland), Comm. [273] 894; cl. 2, Amendt. 895, 897; cl. 3, 898, 899; cl. 7, 901; cl. 14, Amendt. 903, 905, 907; cl. 27, Amendt. 909, 910, 911
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(*Mr. Burt, Mr. Broadhurst, Mr. Dick Peddie, Mr. O'Connor Power, Mr. Passmore Edwards, Mr. MacLiver*)
c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 10 [Bill 57]
2R. [Dropped]

Endowed Schools Act, 1869, and Amending Acts—*Beddingfield's Charity*

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty to refuse Her Assent to the Scheme of the Charity Commissioners for the management of Beddingfield's Charity for the benefit of the parishes of Lyminge, Dymchurch, and Smeeth, all in the county of Kent" (*The Lord Broxbourne*) Mar 17, [267] 1126; after short debate, Motion withdrawn (*P.P.* 45-1)

Endowed Schools Commission—*The Charity Commissioners—Re-organisation*

Questions, Mr. J. G. Talbot; Answers, Mr. Mundella July 20, [272] 1076; Aug 3, [273] 585

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Question, Mr. Bryce; Answer, Mr. Mundella Mar 2, [266] 1920
Christ's Hospital—The New Scheme, Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, Mr. Mundella July 24, [272] 1542
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The Bluecoat School at Hertford, Question, Mr. Serjeant Simon; Answer, Mr. Dodson Feb 16, [266] 780
Tonbridge Middle School, Question, Mr. Spencer Balfour; Answer, Mr. Mundella Feb 24, [266] 1227

Endowed Schools—The Dulwich College Scheme

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty to withhold Her assent from the scheme of the Charity Commissioners for the administration of Alleyn's College of God's Gift at Dulwich, now on the Table of this House" (*The Earl of Milltown*) July 28, [273] 26; after short debate, on Question, resolved in the negative

Question, Mr. Grantham; Answer, Mr. Mundella July 8, [271] 1256

Motion for an Address (*Mr. Grantham*) July 24, [272] 1061; after short debate, Question put; A. 11, N. 50; M. 39 (D. L. 298) (P.P. 45-vii)

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England and Peru—The Peruvian Bondholders—Correspondence

Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Nov 17, [274] 1631

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c. Read 2^o, after short debate Feb 23, [266] 1830

Entail Abolition Bill

(*Mr. William*

Fowler, Mr. Inderwick, Mr. Holland)

c. Ordered * Feb 9

Read 1^o Feb 10

[Bill 39]

2R. [Dropped]

Entail (Scotland) Bill—Legislation

Question, Mr. Duff; Answer, The Lord Advocate April 24, [268] 1256

Entail (Scotland) Bill [H.L.]

(*The Lord Rosebery*)

l. Presented; read 1^a, after short debate June 5, 270] 51 (No. 115)

. Read 2^a, after short debate June 15, 1221

Committee; Report; Bill re-committed, after

271] short debate June 29, 758 (No. 169)

272] Committee, after debate July 11, 5 (No. 191)

. Report July 17, 685 (No. 105)

. Read 3^a July 18

c. Read 1^o * (*The Lord Advocate*) July 21

Read 2^o * July 22 [Bill 248]

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr.

Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 2,

273] 560; after short debate, Debate adjourned

. Debate resumed Aug 5, 892; after short

debate, Question put, and agreed to; Com-

mittee; Report

. Considered; read 3^o Aug 9, 1326

l. Commons Amendts. Aug 10 (No. 236)

Moved, "That the Commons Amendts. be now

considered" Aug 11, 1490; after short

debate, Motion agreed to; several of the

Amendts. agreed to, with Amendts.

Moved to agree to one other of the Amendts.;

objected to; and, on question, resolved in

the affirmative; the rest of the Amendts.

agreed to; and Bill returned to the Commons

Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 53]

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Evidence, &c." (*The Lord Lamington*) July

17, [272] 674; after short debate, Motion

agreed to

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c. Ordered; read 1^o April 19 [Bill 128]
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 l. Read 1^o (Lord Rosebery) May 16 (No. 92)
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(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1^o April 19 [Bill 127]
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 l. Read 1^o (Lord Rosebery) May 16 (No. 93)
 Read 2^a June 2
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 Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. xxix]

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(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1^o April 19 [Bill 126]
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Rangoon and Irrawaddy Railway, Question, Lord George Hamilton; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Nov 6, [274] 849

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Rorkee College, Questions, Mr. Pugh; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington April 21, [268] 1104; May 4, [269] 99

The Salt Duty—Cheshire Salt, Question, Mr. Wilbraham Egerton; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Feb 27, [266] 1094

Trade and Commerce—Ironworks, Question, Mr. Caine; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Nov 16, [274] 1542

The New Inland Emigration Act—Labourers in the Tea Districts, Questions, Sir George Campbell; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington Mar 23, [267] 1668; April 3, [268] 546

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The War in Egypt—Despatch of Troops from India—Incidence of Cost, Notice of Motion, The Marquess of Hartington July 24, [272] 1526

India—Corporal Punishment in Indian Gao's

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Return of the con-

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India—Corporal Punishment in Indian Gaols—cont.

tions by the lesser courts in British India during the last three years, showing the offences and punishments awarded thereto in each case respectively" (*The Lord Truro*) July 24, [272] 1523; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

India—East India (Expenses of Military Expedition to Egypt)

LORDS

Moved to resolve, "That, Her Majesty having directed a military expedition of Her forces charged upon the revenues of India to be despatched for service in Egypt, this House consents that the revenues of India shall be applied to defray the expenses of the military operations which may be carried on by such forces beyond the external frontiers of Her Majesty's Indian Possessions" (*The Viscount Enfield*) July 25, [272] 1673; Motion agreed to

COMMONS

Observations, The Marquess of Hartington, Sir Stafford Northcote; Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Speaker July 27, [272] 1991

Moved, "That, Her Majesty having directed a Military Expedition of Her Forces charged upon the Revenues of India to be despatched for service in Egypt, this House consents that the Revenues of India shall be applied to defray the expenses of the Military operations which may be carried on by such Forces beyond the external frontiers of Her Majesty's Indian Possessions" (*Sir William Harcourt*), 2116; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*The Marquess of Hartington*); Motion agreed to

Debate resumed July 31, [273] 255

Amendt. To leave out from "That," and add "the whole charges which may be thrown upon the Revenues of India by the Military operations proposed to be undertaken in Egypt should be repaid out of the Revenues of this Country" (*Mr. Onslow*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Amendt. after "shall," to insert "subject to any future decision of Parliament" (*Mr. Secretary Childers*); Question, "That those words, &c.;" put, and agreed to

Main Question, as amended, put; A. 140, N. 23; M. 117 (D. L. 303)

[See title *Army—Expenses of Indian Contingent*]

India—East India Revenue Accounts—The Annual Financial Statement

Question, Mr. O'Donnell; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington Aug 3, 606

Ordered, That the several Accounts and Papers which have been presented to the House in this Session of Parliament relating to the Revenues of India be referred to the Consideration of a Committee of the whole House; Committee thereupon upon Monday next (*The Marquess of Hartington*) Aug 11

[cont.]

India—East India Revenue Accounts—The Annual Financial Statement—cont.

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 14, 273] 1701; after long debate, Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.;" put, and agreed to; Matter considered in Committee, 1778

Moved, "That it appears by the Accounts laid before this House, that the Ordinary Revenue of India for the year ending the 31st day of March 1880 was £63,178,192; the Revenue from Productive Public Works, including the Net Traffic Receipts from Guaranteed Companies, was £9,381,786, making the total Revenue of India for that year £72,559,978; that the Ordinary Expenditure in India and in England, including Charges for the Collection of the Revenue, for Ordinary Public Works, and for Interest on Debt, exclusive of that for Productive Public Works, was £67,344,396; the Expenditure on Productive Public Works (Working Expenses and Interest), including the payments to Guaranteed Companies for Interest and Surplus Profits, was £9,259,437, making a total Charge for that year of £76,604,333; that there was an excess of Expenditure over Income in that year of £2,044,355; that the Capital Expenditure on Productive Public Works in the same year was £3,238,070; and that there was also an outlay on the East Indian Railway of £418,435" (*The Marquess of Hartington*); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Resolution reported, and, after short debate, agreed to Aug 15, 1918

India—Public Works

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Copies or extracts of all correspondence between the Secretary of State for India and the Governor General in Council, from the 1st of January 1878 to the present time, respecting the prosecution, firstly, of productive public works by means of borrowed funds; secondly, of works designed for protection against famine and commonly described as protective works; and thirdly, of measures taken for the purpose of famine insurance" (*The Earl of Lytton*) Mar 10, [267] 879; after short debate, Motion agreed to

India—Suchait Singh

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for correspondence with the India Office in June and July last respecting Suchait Singh" (*The Lord Stanley of Alderley*) Aug 7, [273] 950; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

India (Home Charges Arrears) Bill

(*Mr. Courtney, The Marquess of Hartington*)

a. Resolution considered in Committee, and 273] agreed to Aug 10, 1488

Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o Aug 11 [Bill 272]

Read 2^o, after short debate Aug 12, 1640

Committee^o; Report; read 3^o Aug 14

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India (Home Charges Arrears)—cont.

- l. Read 1st * (*Viscount Enfield*) Aug 15 (No. 258)
 Read 2nd *; Committee negatived Aug 16
 Read 3rd * Aug 17
 Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 79]

India Office, The—The Shipping Business
 Question, Mr. Coddington; Answer, The Mar-
 quess of Hartington Mar 20, [167] 1293

Industrial and Reformatory Schools (Loans) (Ireland) Bill

(*Colonel Colthurst, Mr. Martin, Mr. O'Shaugh-
 nessy, Mr. Shaw*)

- c. Ordered; read 1st * Feb 15 [Bill 69]
 Bill withdrawn * May 24

Industrial Schools Bill [H.L.] (*The Earl Stanhope*)

- l. Presented; read 1st * Mar 10 (No. 34)

Infectious Diseases Notification Bill

(*Mr. Hastings, Sir Trevor Lawrence, Dr. Farqu-
 harson, Mr. Brinton*)

- c. Ordered * Feb 9
 Read 1st * Feb 10 [Bill 52]
 2R. [Dropped]

Infectious Diseases Notification (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. Meldon, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Moore*)

- c. Ordered * Feb 9
 Read 1st * Feb 10 [Bill 50]
 2R. [Dropped]

Infectious Diseases Notification (Ireland) (No. 2) Bill

(*Mr. Gray, Mr. Dawson, Mr. O'Shaughnessy*)

- c. Ordered; read 1st * Feb 27 [Bill 59]
 2R. [Dropped]

Inland Revenue Department—Grievances of Excise Officers

Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr.
 Gladstone July 27, [172] 1978

Intermediate Education (Ireland) Bill [H.L.] (*The Lord O'Hagan*)

- l. Presented; read 1st * June 13 (No. 138)
 Read 2nd * June 19, [170] 1554
 Committee *; Report June 20
 Read 3rd * June 22
 c. Read 1st * Aug 1 [Bill 258]
 Read 2nd * Aug 3
 Committee; Report Aug 4, [173] 887
 Considered *; read 3rd * Aug 7
 l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 69]

Interments (Felo de se) Bill

(*Viscount Ebrington, Sir John Amory, Sir John
 Kennaway*)

- c. Ordered * Mar 8
 Read 1st * Mar 9 [Bill 98]

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Interments (Felo de se) Bill—cont.

- Read 2nd * April 26
 Committee *—a.p. June 7
 Committee *; Report June 8
 Read 3rd * June 9
 l. Read 1st * (*Earl Fortescue*) June 12 (No. 130)
 Read 2nd * June 20, [170] 1719
 Moved, "That the House do now resolve itself
 into Committee" June 22, [171] 13
 Amendt. to leave out ("now," and add ("this
 day three months") (*The Lord Stanley of
 Alderley*); after short debate, Amendt.
 withdrawn
 Original Motion agreed to; Committee; Re-
 port
 Read 3rd * June 23
 c. Lords Amendts. June 26 [Bill 216]
 l. Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 19]

International Fishery Conference—Police of the North Sea

Question, Mr. Birkbeck; Answer, Mr. Cham-
 berlain May 1, [168] 1809

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The Spanish Steamer "Leon XIII"

Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Sir Charles
 W. Dilke Mar 31, [168] 480

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 tion, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Sir Charles W.
 Dilke June 27, [171] 537

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 Cameron; Answers, Mr. Evelyn Ashley,
 Mr. Campbell-Bannerman July 3, [171]
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The Spanish Consul, Questions, Dr. Cameron;
 Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke July 6, [171]
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*Protection of Person and Property (Ireland)
 Act, 1881—Intervention of the American
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 Wolff; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 4, [168]
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Intoxicating Liquors (Licences) Bill

(*Mr. Lewis Fry, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Staveley Hill,
 Lord Moreton*)

- c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed
 to, and reported; Bill ordered * Feb 9
 Read 1st * Feb 10 [Bill 28]
 2R. [Dropped]

Intoxicating Liquor (Licensing) Act, 1872 —Secs. 14 and 15—Beerhouses in Chatham

Question, Mr. Caine; Answer, Sir William
 Harcourt Nov 9, [174] 1104

Ionian Bank Bill (by Order)

- c. 2R., after short debate, Debate adjourned
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Ireland—Agrarian Offences (Provinces)

Moved, "That a Return be presented to this House by Provinces, of Agrarian Offences throughout Ireland reported to the Inspector General of the Royal Irish Constabulary between the 1st day of January 1881, and the 31st day of December 1881, showing the number of cases in which offenders were convicted; the number of cases in which persons were made amenable but not convicted; the number of cases in which accused are awaiting trial; and the number of cases in which offenders were neither convicted nor made amenable" (*Mr. William Edward Forster*) Feb 27, [266] 1710; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Return presented accordingly (P.P. No. 72)

[cont.]

Ireland—Coroners' Juries Verdicts

Moved, "That a Return be made of Particulars of the Cases in which, since the present Government took Office, Coroners' Juries in Ireland have returned verdicts of wilful murder or manslaughter against members of the Constabulary Force or other agents of the Executive, such Return to set forth what steps, if any, have been taken by the Executive in any of those cases to put the persons affected by the verdicts in question on their trial" (*Mr. Sexton*) Feb 10, [266] 473; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Ireland—County Cess

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the manner in which a County Cess of 8s. 1½d. in the pound was imposed at the summer assizes on the townlands of Ballintubber, Brackloon, and Brookagh, in the County of Galway, and the manner in which a heavy County Cess was imposed on Cool, Raheen, and other townlands in Queen's County" (*Colonel Nolan*) Mar 21, [267] 1533; after debate, Question put, A. 25, N. 79; M. 54 (D. L. 50)

Ireland—Extraordinary Naval, Military, and Police Expenditure

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Feb 23, To leave out from "That," and add "there be laid before this House a Return of all sums chargeable on the Estimates connected with the attempt to preserve Life and Property in that country" (*Earl Percy*) v., [266] 1375; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 244, N. 13; M. 231 (D. L. 21)

Ireland—Grand Jury System

Amendt. on Committee of Supply May 12, To leave out from "That," and add "in the opinion of this House, it is expedient that the Grand Jury system in Ireland should be immediately reformed" (*Mr. Healy*) v., [269] 559; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 118, N. 24; M. 94 (D. L. 78)

Ireland—Louth County (Offences)

Moved for a Return "Of the Offences reported in the County of Louth, specifying the dates thereof, from the commencement of 1881 up to the period when it was proclaimed under the provisions of 'The Peace Preservation (Ireland) Act, 1881,' specifying those for which Convictions were obtained,"
"And, Copy of the Correspondence as to the said Proclamation, which has passed between His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and the Magistrates of the said County" (*Mr. Callan*) July 27, [272] 2117; Motion agreed to

Ireland—Major Bond, Stipendiary Magistrate

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mar 16, To leave out from "That," and add "this House regrets that the Chief Secretary to

Ireland—Major Bond, Stipendiary Magistrate—cont.

the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland did not exercise more care and better discretion in appointing Major Bond to the responsible office of a stipendiary magistrate in Ireland" (*Mr. Callan*) v., [267] 1030; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 78, N. 14; M. 64 (D. L. 49)

Ireland—Police Protection (Caretakers)

Moved for, "Correspondence between the Irish Executive and the Director of the Property Defence Association on the subject of police protection to caretakers" (*The Earl of Courtown*) Mar 30, [268] 273; after short debate, Motion agreed to (P.P. No. 59)

Ireland, State of (Munster and Connaught)

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for the appointment of a Royal Commission to investigate the social condition of the Provinces of Munster and Connaught" (*The Lord Waveney*) June 23, [271] 170; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Ireland—The Church Temporalities Commission—Arrears of Rent and Interest

Moved for, "Return of the amount of arrears of rent and interest due to the Church Temporalities Commission" (*The Lord Stanley of Alderley*) June 26, [271] 358; after short debate, Motion agreed to (P.P. No. 182)

Irish Church Act (1869) (Purchasers) Bill

(*Mr. Givan, Mr. Findlater, Mr. Thomas Dickson*)
c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered * Feb 9
Read 1° Feb 10 [Bill 47]
2R. [Dropped]

Irish Reproductive Loan Fund Act (1874) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Blake, Colonel Colthurst, Colonel Nolan, Mr. O'Shea, Mr. O'Connor Power, Mr. Collins*)
c. Ordered; read 1° April 19 [Bill 133]
Read 2° May 3
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" May 9, [269] 361
Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Gibson*); after short debate, Motion agreed to; Debate adjourned
Debate resumed May 22, 1896
Main Question put, and agreed to; Committee; Report
Considered * May 25
Read 3° June 5
l. Read 1° (Viscount Monck) June 6 (No. 120)
Read 2° June 13, [270] 966
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Read 3° June 16
Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. 16]

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Isle of Man (Officers) Bill

(Mr. Courtney, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1^o July 11 [Bill 238]

Read 2^o July 13

Committee^o; Report; read 3^o Aug 5

l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) Aug 7 (No. 227)

Read 2^o Aug 10

Committee^o; Report Aug 11

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(Mr. Monk, Mr. Norwood, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Corry, Mr. Reid, Mr. Serjeant Simon)

Ordered * Feb 9

Read 1^o * Feb 10

[Bill 44]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o."

Mar 15, [267] 944

After short debate, Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day six months"

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l. Read 1° * (*Viscount Monck*) June 9 (No. 110)
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l. Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 31]

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(Mr. Villiers Stuart, Sir Patrick O'Brien, Sir Hervey Bruce, Colonel Colthurst, Mr. Blake, Mr. O'Sullivan)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o June 21 [Bill 212]
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Considered*; read 3^o July 25
- l. Read 1^o (Lord O'Hagan) July 27 (No. 210)
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- c. Lords Amendts Aug 11 [Bill 276]
l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 60]

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(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 16 [Bill 164]
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Report June 9
Read 3^o June 12
l. Read 1^o (Lord Rosebery) June 12 (No. 131)
Read 2^o June 20
Committee; Report June 22
Read 3^o June 23
Royal Assent July 8 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxxvii]

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Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881

Moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the working of recent legislation in reference to land in Ireland, and its effect upon the condition of the country" 266] (*The Earl of Donoughmore*) Feb 17, 889; after long debate, on Question? Cont. 96, Not-Cont. 53; M. 43

Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont., 977
Observations, Earl Granville, The Marquess of Salisbury Feb 20, 1075

Moved, "That the Select Committee be nominated" (*The Earl of Donoughmore*) Feb 24, 1501; after debate, Motion agreed to

The Lords following were named of the Committee:—D. Norfolk, D. Somerset, D. Marlborough, M. Salisbury, M. Abercorn, E. Pembroke and Montgomery, E. Stanhope, E. Clarendon, E. Cairns, V. Hutchinson, L. Tyrone, L. Crarysfort, L. Kenry, L. Penzance, and L. Brabourne

Reports—(*P.P.* 37, 37-I., 37-II)

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881

Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Parnell*) Nov 30, [275] 407

Whereupon a number of Members—less than 40—rising in their places the hon. Member could not proceed with his Motion

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Operation of the Act

Notice of Motion, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Mr. Gorst; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Feb 20, 266] 1106

Notice, Sir Stafford Northcote Feb 21, 1224

Moved, "That Parliamentary inquiry, at the present time, into the working of the Irish Land Act tends to defeat the operation of that Act, and must be injurious to the interests of good government in Ireland" (*Mr. Gladstone*) Feb 27, 1729

Previous Question proposed, "That the Original Question be now put" (*Mr. Gibson*); after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Sexton*); after further short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned

Debate resumed [Second Night] Mar 2, 1950; after long debate, Debate further adjourned

[cont.]

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Operation of the Act—cont.

267] Debate resumed [Third Night] Mar 6, 227; after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow" (Mr. Butt)

After further short debate, Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," and insert "Thursday next" (Mr. Warton) v.; Question proposed, "That 'To-morrow,' &c.;" after further short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Original Question put, and agreed to; Debate further adjourned

Personal Explanation, Lord Claud Hamilton; Observations, Mr. Gladstone Mar 7, 385

Debate resumed [Fourth Night] Mar 9, 470; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Lewis); Motion withdrawn; after long debate, Previous Question put, "That the Original Question be now put;" A. 303, N. 219; M. 84 (D. L. 41)

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Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—The Irish Land Commission

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Appeals under the Land Act, Questions, Mr. Tottenham, Mr. Dillon; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan June 26, [271] 402

Costs of Appeals, Question, Mr. Gibson; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Nov 27, [275] 95

Appointment of Solicitor, Questions, Mr. Healy, Mr. Sexton; Answers, The Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. W. E. Forster Mar 20, [267] 1280

Court of the Land Commission, Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, The Attorney General for Ireland Feb 23, [266] 1362;—*State of Business*, Questions, Mr. T. A. Dickson, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. W. E. Forster Mar 20, [267] 1285

Withdrawal of Applications from the Court, Question, Mr. T. A. Dickson; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Nov 13, [274] 1307

Constitution of the Court of Appeal, Question, Mr. Macartney; Answer, The Attorney General for Ireland Mar 30, [268] 285; Question, Mr. Gibson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 3, [271] 1253; Questions, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Tottenham; Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 6, 1615

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Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Irish Land Commission

Moved for a "Copy of a Letter, dated 3rd February instant, from Denis Godley, Esquire, Secretary to the Irish Land Commission, to the Earl of Longford, on the subject of a pamphlet entitled 'How to become the owner of your farm,' printed at the Queen's Printing Office, Dublin, for Her Majesty's Stationery Office" (*The Earl of Longford*) Feb 9, [266] 221; after short debate, Motion agreed to
Motion for Returns, Lord Oranmore and Browne Feb 13, 477; after short debate, Motion amended, and agreed to

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Irish Land Commission

Moved, "That the Return of the judicial rents fixed by sub-commissions and civil bill courts, as notified by the Irish Land Commission up to and including the 28th January 1882, be supplemented by a column giving the present gross letting value of each holding as ascertained by the Sub-Commissioners; and that it be an instruction that in all future Returns the above information be given" (*The Lord Ventry*) Feb 24, [266] 1496; after short debate, further debate adjourned
Debate resumed Feb 28, 1628; after short debate, on Question, resolved in the negative

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Irish Land Commission

A Return ordered "of Proceedings of the Irish Land Commission under 'The Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881,' up to the 24th day of February 1882, inclusive" (*Mr. William Edward Forster*) Feb 27; Return presented accordingly (P.P. 71)

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Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 — Irish Land Commission—"Fair Rents"

Petition for a speedy declaration of the principles adopted in the assessment of fair rents under the Act by the Land Commissioners in Ireland; of Owners of land and others living in Ireland, or interested in its welfare" (*The Earl of Longford*) read May 4, [269] 76; Petition to lie on the Table

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 — Irish Land Commission—Appeals from Decisions of the Sub-Commissioners

Moved for, "Numerical return of appeals from decisions of Sub-Commissioners, heard before the Irish Land Commissioners up to 30th June 1882, showing the localities where the appeals were heard, and the names of the Commissioners who heard the appeals upon each occasion; and similar return of appeals from decisions of Civil Bill Courts" (*The Earl of Longford*) July 7, [271] 1770; after short debate, Motion agreed to (P.P. 14)

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 — Irish Land Commission—Official Valuers

Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Gibson*) Nov 28, [275] 232

Mr. Speaker being unable to resume the Chair from indisposition, Mr. Playfair, the Chairman of Ways and Means, took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, 260

After debate, Question put, and negatived

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 — Irish Land Commission (Valuers)

Moved, "That there be laid before the House, a Copy of Letter, dated the 19th day of October 1882, from the Irish Land Commissioners to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, dealing with the question of the Valuers recently attached to each Sub-Commission" (*Mr. Trevelyan*) Dec 1, [275] 498; after short debate, Question put; A. 163, N. 14; M. 139 (D. L. 405)

Copy presented accordingly; to lie upon the Table, and to be printed. [No. 416]

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881 — Irish Land Commission—The Sub-Commissioners—Judicial Rents

Moved, "That there be laid before this House, Return stating the number of cases in each district in which rents have been judicially fixed by the Irish Land Sub-Commissioners lower than the Government valuation; giving in each such case the valuation (1) with, and (2) without buildings, and the judicial rent fixed" (*The Viscount Lifford*) July 7, [271] 1737; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Land Law (Ireland) Act (1881) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Redmond, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Healy, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Justin M'Carthy*)

c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Redmond*) Feb 8, [266] 216; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill ordered

Land Law (Ireland) Act (1881) Amendment Bill—cont.

Read 1^o Feb 9 [Bill 2]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" April 26, [268] 1478

After long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Justin M'Carthy*); after further short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned
Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

Land Law (Ireland) Act (1881) Amendment (No. 2) Bill

(*Mr. Givan, Mr. Thomas Dickson, Mr. Findlater*)

c. Ordered Feb 9

Read 1^o Feb 10 [Bill 46]

2R. [Dropped]

Land Law (Ireland) Act (1881) Amendment (No. 3) Bill

(*Mr. Findlater, Mr. Givan, Mr. P. J. Smyth, Mr. Thomas Dickson*)

c. Ordered Feb 9

Read 1^o Feb 10 [Bill 48]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"

Mar 15, [267] 952; after debate, Moved,

"That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr.*

Mitchell Henry); after further debate, Question put; A. 171, N. 86; M. 85 (D. L. 48);

Debate adjourned

Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

Land League Meetings (England)

Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke April 4, [268] 688

Landlord and Tenant (Great Britain) Bill

c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. J. Howard*) Feb 8, [266] 217; Motion postponed

Land Revenue—The Claremont Estate

Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Courtney Oct 27, [274] 268

Land Tenure Bill

(*Mr. James Howard, Mr. Barclay, Mr. Samuelson, Sir George Balfour*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 20 [Bill 78]

2R. [Dropped]

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- Question, Mr. Whitworth; Answer, Mr. Dodson Dec 2, [275] 524

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- Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Feb 13, [266] 499

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- e. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1^o Feb 27 [Bill 86]
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" May 10, 269] 400
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- Adjourned Debate on 2R. [Dropped]

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Local Government (Boundaries) Bill

(Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Pell, Mr. Howard, Mr. Yorks)

c. Motion for Leave (Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice) Feb 13, [266] 621; Question put, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1° [Bill 63]
2R. [Dropped]

Local Government Provisional Order (Artizans' and Labourers' Dwellings) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1° May 15 [Bill 162]
Read 2° May 23
Report June 5
Read 3° June 6
l. Read 1° (Lord Carrington) June 8 (No. 121)
Read 2° June 19
Committee*; Report June 20
Read 3° June 22
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lix]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 1) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered April 18
Read 1° April 19 [Bill 181]
Read 2° April 25
Report May 22
Considered May 23
Read 3° May 24
l. Read 1° (Lord Carrington) June 1 (No. 106)
Read 2° June 12
Committee*; Report June 13
Read 3° June 15
Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. xxxiii]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 2) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1° May 1 [Bill 145]
Read 2° May 9
Order for Committee discharged May 23
Report June 9
Read 3° June 12
l. Read 1° (Lord Carrington) June 12 (No. 134)
Read 2° June 20
Committee*; Report June 22
Read 3° June 23
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lx]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 3) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1° May 8 [Bill 152]
Read 2° May 16
Report June 5
Considered June 6
Read 3° June 7
l. Read 1° (Lord Carrington) June 8 (No. 122)
Read 2° June 19
Committee*; Report June 22
Read 3° June 23
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxi]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 4) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1° May 12 [Bill 159]
Read 2° May 23
Report June 9
Considered June 12
Read 3° June 14
l. Read 1° (Lord Carrington) June 15 (No. 150)
Read 2° June 20
Committee*; Report June 23
Read 3° June 26
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxii]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 5) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1° May 12 [Bill 160]
Read 2° May 22
Report of Select Comm. June 20
Considered June 21
Read 3° June 22
l. Read 1° (Lord Carrington) June 23
Read 2° June 30 (No. 162)
Committee* July 31
Report Aug 1
Read 3° Aug 3
Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 46 Vict. c. clxx]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 6) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1° May 18 [Bill 166]
Read 2° June 1
Report June 9
Read 3° June 12
l. Read 1° (Lord Carrington) June 12 (No. 135)
Read 2° June 20
Committee*; Report June 22
Read 3° June 23
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxiii]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 7) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1° May 18 [Bill 167]
Read 2° June 1
Report June 9
Considered June 12
Read 3° June 13

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- l.* Read 1st * (Lord Carrington) June 15 (No. 145)
Read 2nd * June 20
Committee *; Report June 23
Read 3rd * June 26
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxiv]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 8) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * May 18 [Bill 168]
Read 2nd * June 1
Report * June 9
Considered * June 12
Read 3rd * June 13
l. Read 1st * (Lord Carrington) June 15 (No. 146)
Read 2nd * June 20
Committee * June 27
Report * June 29
Read 3rd * June 30
Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxvii]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 9) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * May 22 [Bill 174]
Read 2nd * June 1
Report * June 9
Considered * June 12
Read 3rd * June 13
l. Read 1st * (Lord Carrington) June 15 (No. 147)
Read 2nd * June 20
Committee * June 30
Report * July 3
Read 3rd * July 4
Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cxiii]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 10) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * May 24 [Bill 181]
Read 2nd * June 1
Report * June 9
Read 3rd * June 12
l. Read 1st * (Lord Carrington) June 12 (No. 136)
Read 2nd * June 20
Committee *; Report June 22
Read 3rd * June 23
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxix]

Local Government Provisional Orders (No. 11) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * May 26 [Bill 186]
Read 2nd * June 1
Report * June 15
Considered * June 16
Read 3rd * June 19
l. Read 1st * (Lord Carrington) June 19 (No. 162)
Read 2nd * June 20
Committee *; Report June 30
Read 3rd * July 3
Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cxviii]

Local Government (Gas) Provisional Orders Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * May 1 [Bill 144]
Read 2nd * May 9
Report * June 9
Considered * June 12
Read 3rd * June 13
l. Read 1st * (Lord Carrington) June 15 (No. 144)
Read 2nd * June 20
Report * July 28
Committee * Aug 1
Report * Aug 3
Read 3rd * Aug 4
Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cxix]

Local Government Provisional Order (Highways) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

- c.* Ordered * April 18
Read 1st * April 19 [Bill 129]
Read 2nd * April 25
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Read 3rd * May 8
l. Read 1st * (Lord Rosebery) May 9 (No. 82)
Read 2nd * May 19
Committee *; Report May 22
Read 3rd * June 1
Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. xxvi]

Local Government Provisional Orders (Poor Law) Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

- c.* Ordered * April 18
Read 1st * April 19 [Bill 130]
Read 2nd * April 25
Report * May 18
Order for 3R. discharged * May 19
Report * May 22
Considered * May 23
Read 3rd * May 24
l. Read 1st * (Lord Carrington) June 1 (No. 107)
Read 2nd * June 12
Committee * Report June 13
Read 3rd * June 15
Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. xxxiv]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (Ballymena, &c.) Bill [R.L.]

(The Lord Carlingford)

- l.* Presented; read 1st *, and referred to the Examiners Mar 30 (No. 57)
Read 2nd * April 24
Committee * Report May 2
Read 3rd * May 4
c. Read 1st * May 10 [Bill 165]
Read 2nd * May 19
Report * June 5
Read 3rd * June 6
l. Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. xxxii]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order Bill (Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Lord Frederick Cavendish)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st * April 21 [Bill 138]
Read 2nd * May 2
Report * May 12
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Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order Bill—cont.

- l.* Read 1st (Lord Rosebery) May 18 (No. 98)
 Read 2nd June 2
 Committee *; Report June 5
 Read 3rd June 6
 Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. xxxi]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 2) Bill

(Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st May 16 [Bill 165]
 Read 2nd May 26
 Report June 9
 Read 3rd June 12
l. Read 1st (Lord Carlingford) June 12 (No. 132)
 Read 2nd June 20
 Committee *; Report June 22
 Read 3rd June 23
 Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxv]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 3) Bill

(Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st May 19 [Bill 172]
 Read 2nd June 1
 Report June 9
 Read 3rd June 12
l. Read 1st (Lord Carlingford) June 12 (No. 133)
 Read 2nd June 20
 Committee *; Report June 23
 Read 3rd June 23
 Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxvi]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Order (No. 4) Bill

(Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st May 22 [Bill 173]
 Read 2nd June 6
 Report June 26
 Considered June 27
 Read 3rd June 28
l. Read 1st (Lord Carlingford) June 29
 Read 2nd July 4 (No. 171)
 Committee * July 7
 Report July 10
 Read 3rd July 11
 Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cxl]

Local Government (Ireland) Provisional Orders (No. 5) Bill

(Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland)

- c.* Ordered; read 1st May 23 [Bill 175]
 Read 2nd June 6
 Report June 16
 Read 3rd June 19
l. Read 1st (Lord Carlingford) June 19 (No. 163)
 Read 2nd June 20
 Committee *; Report June 27
 Read 3rd June 29
 Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxxi]

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(Mr. P. J. Smyth, Mr. Fay, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Dr. Cameron)

- c.* Ordered Feb 9
 Read 1st Feb 10 [Bill 42]
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- c.* Observations, Question, Mr. Ritchie; Reply, Mr. Speaker July 6, [271] 1592
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- l. Presented; read 1^a * June 6 (No. 117)
- Read 2^a * June 20
- Committee put off, after short debate June 22, [271] 16
- Committee June 26, 370
- Report * June 27 (No. 165)
- Read 3^a * June 29
- c. Read 1^o * (*The Lord Advocate*) July 4
- Read 2^o * July 10 [Bill 224]
- Bill withdrawn * Aug 4

Lunacy Laws

Moved, "That all lunatics ought to be committed to the keeping of the State" (*Mr. Stanley Leighton*) April 25, [268] 1446; after debate, Question put; A. 34, N. 81; M. 47 (D. L. 72)

Lunacy Regulation Amendment Bill [H.L.]

(*The Lord Chancellor*)

- l. Presented; read 1^a * June 23 (No. 180)
- Read 2^a * June 27
- Committee *; Report June 29
- Read 3^a * June 30
- c. Read 1^o * (*Mr. Hibbert*) July 7 [Bill 230]
- Read 2^o July 10, [271] 2061
- Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 6, [273] 920; after short debate, Question put; A. 53, N. 3; M. 50 (D. L. 316); Committee; Report
- Considered; read 3^o, after short debate Aug 8, 1271

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c. Lords Amendt. to Commons Amendts. *Aug* 11
 [Bill 274]
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 sidered, and agreed to *Aug* 14, 1783
l. Royal Assent *Aug* 18 [45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 82]

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 (Sir Charles Forster) *Mar* 31, [268] 462
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 "it is not desirable to proceed with a Bill
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Stanhope) *v.*; Question proposed, "That the
 words, &c.;" after debate, Amendt. with-
 drawn
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o

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(*Mr. Blennerhassett, Mr. Monk, Sir Arthur Otway*)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o Feb 10 [Bill 60]
- 2R. [Dropped]

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(*Mr. Cairne, Mr. Morley*)

- c. Ordered Feb 9
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- l. Presented: read 1^a May 4 (No. 75)
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- l. Presented: read 1^a Feb 14, [266] 626 (No. 13)
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c. Read 1st * July 10 [Bill 235]

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Considered *; read 3rd Aug 14

l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 76]

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(Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. John Holms)

c. Ordered * July 31

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Read 2nd, after short debate Aug 3, [273] 723

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Considered *; read 3rd Aug 8

l. Read 1st * (*Lord Sudeley*) Aug 10 (No. 241)

Read 2nd * Aug 11

Committee *; Report Aug 14

Read 3rd * Aug 16

Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 55]

Merchant Shipping (Mercantile Marine Fund) [Payments to Fund, &c.]

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 4, [273] 881; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Matter considered in Committee

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The Trees in Kensington Gardens, Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Aug 10, [273] 1372

Metropolis—Fires in Theatres (Prevention)

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 17, To leave out from "That," and add "in view of the great danger to the Theatre-going public from the insufficiency of powers under existing Acts relating to Theatres, and the laxity with which such powers, conferred by various Acts of Parliament, have been exercised, and that any day, unless some steps are taken to insure proper exits and necessary appliances against fire, a calamity may happen which may cause as terrific a loss of life as that which lately occurred at the Ring Theatre at Vienna, a Select Committee be appointed to investigate the state of the exits, and what appliances exist for the prevention or extinction of fires in Theatres and Music Halls, and to report the result of their investigations and recommendations thereon" (*Mr. Dixon-Hartland*) v., [268] 788; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for copies of the Report made to the Home Office by Captain Shaw, chief officer of the London Fire Brigade, with regard to the dangers to which the public are exposed from fire in the Metropolitan theatres, and as to the means of exit provided for them" (*The Earl of Milltown*) May 1, [268] 1806; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Metropolis—Metropolitan Fire Brigade

Resolution, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson Mar 14, [267] 915 [House counted out]

Metropolis—Street Obstructions

Private Streets—Legislation, Questions; Mr. Montague Guest, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Sir William Harcourt Feb 21, [266] 1228

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Return of the gates, bars, and obstructions which are placed across certain streets of the Metropolis, with particulars as to the parishes in which they are respectively situated, the street or other place they obstruct, with the width of such street or place: whether the roadway of such street or place is repaired by the local authorities; whether, if such street or place were opened as a thoroughfare, much traffic would be likely to pass through it, and from what points, with a description of each bar or obstruction, with the authority for its erection and continuance and date of first erection; also what powers such authority

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Metropolis—Street Obstructions—cont.

confers, and to what extent those powers are now put in force" (*The Earl of Milltown*) July 25, [272] 1872; Motion withdrawn

Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Bill

(*Sir James M'Garel-Hogg, Admiral Sir John Hay, Sir Andrew Lusk*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 21 [Bill 107]
Read 2^o April 28
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" May 2, [268] 2010

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "this House will, upon this day six months, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Mr. Alderman W. Lawrence*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.:" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn; Committee—R.P.

Committee May 12, [269] 635
[House counted out]

Committee; Report May 18, 1058

Considered May 19

Read 3^o May 22

l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) June 1 (No. 104)

Read 2^o June 8

Committee; Report June 13, [270] 987

Read 3^o June 15

Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. 14]

Metropolis Management, Building, and Floods Prevention Acts (Amendment) Bill (by Order)

c. Read 2^o Mar 10, [267] 582

Metropolis (Rating of Footways) Bill

(*Mr. Torrens, Sir Andrew Lusk, Sir James Lawrence, Mr. William M'Arthur, Baron Henry De Worms, Mr. Boord*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 22 [Bill 110]

Read 2^o Mar 29

Committee [Dropped]

Metropolitan Board of Works (Money) Bill

(*Mr. Courtney, Lord Richard Grosvenor*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o May 23 [Bill 178]

Read 2^o, after short debate June 15, [270] 1389

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" June 27, [271] 665

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "the Bill be referred to a Select Committee" (*Mr. Monk*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.:" after short debate, Question put; A. 59, N. 19; M. 40 (D. L. 186)

Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c." put, and agreed to; Committee—R.P.

Committee; Report July 3, 1349

Considered July 4

Read 3^o July 5

l. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) July 6 (No. 181)

Read 2^o July 11

Committee July 14

Report July 17

Read 3^o July 18

Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 33]

Metropolitan Commons Supplemental Bill (*Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 28 [Bill 92]

Read 2^o Mar 10

Report Mar 24

Read 3^o Mar 27

l. Read 1^o (Lord Rosebery) Mar 27 (No. 38)

Read 2^o April 24

Committee; Report April 25

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c. Ordered; read 1^o May 25 [Bill 184]

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c. Ordered; read 1^o April 19 [Bill 134]

Read 2^o, after short debate May 1, [268] 1900

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l. Read 1^o (Earl of Morley) May 11 (No. 86)

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- c. Ordered; read 1st April 3 [Bill 123]
- Read 2nd July 14
- Committee; Report Aug 3, [273] 625
- Considered; read 3rd Aug 4
- l. Read 1st (Earl of Morley) Aug 7 (No. 225)
- Read 2nd Aug 11
- Committee; Report Aug 14
- Read 3rd Aug 16
- Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 49]

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- c. Ordered; read 1st Mar 29 [Bill 116]
- Read 2nd April 26
- Committee; Report May 1, [268] 1915
- Read 3rd May 2
- l. Read 1st (Earl Beauchamp) May 4 (No. 70)
- Read 2nd May 9
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- Royal Assent June 10 [45 Vict. c. 12]

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Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland), 2R. [272] 1481

Municipal Corporations Bill

(*Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt*)

c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Hibbert*) Feb 13, 266] 620; Question put, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o [Bill 61]

Read 2^o Mar 2, 2032

268] Committee: Report Mar 27, 114

Order for Committee (*on re-comm.*) read; Moved, "That this House will, upon Tuesday next, at Two of the clock, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Lord Richard Grosvenor*) April 21, 1183

Amendt. to leave out "Two of the clock" (*Mr. Chaplin*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 100, N. 50; M. 50 (D. L. 70)

Main Question proposed, 1202; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Earl Percy*); Motion withdrawn

Main Question put, and agreed to; Committee deferred

Order for Committee (*on re-comm.*) read; Moved, "That this House will, upon Tuesday next, at Two of the clock, resolve itself into the said Committee" (*Lord Frederick Cavendish*) April 28, 1752

Amendt. to leave out "at Two of the clock" (*Mr. Chaplin*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. R. N. Fowler*); after further short debate, Question put; A. 36, N. 90; M. 51 (D. L. 73)

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Municipal Corporations Bill—cont.

Question again proposed, "That the words, &c." [268] 1777; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Biggar); after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Question, "That the words, &c.," put, and agreed to

Main Question put, and agreed to; Committee deferred

Committee* (on re-comm.)—R.P. May 2

[Bill 113]

269] Committee (on re-comm.)—R.P. May 4, 200

Committee (on re-comm.); Report May 9, 334

273] Considered; read 3^d Aug 1, 378

l. Read 1^a* (Lord Rosebery) Aug 1 (No. 214)

Read 2^a* Aug 7, 951

Committee* Aug 10

Report* Aug 11

Read 3^a* Aug 14

Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 50]

Municipal Corporations (Borough Funds)

Bill (Mr. Dodds, Mr. Edward Clarke, Mr. Jackson, Mr. St. Aubyn)

c. Ordered* June 26

Read 1^a* June 27

[Bill 218]

2R. [Dropped]

Municipal Corporations (Unreformed)

Bill [H.L.] (The Lord Rosebery)

l. Presented; read 1^a* May 4 (No. 79)

Read 2^a, after short debate May 16, [269] 816

Committee* June 13 (No. 140)

Report* June 15

Read 3^a* June 16

c. Read 1^a* June 28

[Bill 220]

Bill withdrawn* Aug 7

Municipal Franchise (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. McCoan, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Dawson)

c. Ordered* Feb 8

Read 1^a* Feb 9

[Bill 6]

Read 2^a, after debate Mar 15, [267] 917

Committee [Dropped]

MUNTZ, Mr. P. H., Birmingham

Parliament—Business of the House—New Rules of Procedure—First Rule (Putting the Question), [274] 771, 773, 780

MURRAY, Mr. C. J., Hastings

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National Gallery (Loan) Bill [H.L.]

(The Earl Granville)

l. Presented; read 1^a* Aug 15 (No. 261)

Read 2^a, after short debate Aug 17, [273] 1975

National Museums and Galleries, Sunday Opening of

Observations, Viscount Powerscourt; Reply, The Earl of Rosebery May 15, [269] 657

Amendt. on Committee of Supply May 19, To leave out from "That," and add "seeing the success which has attended the action of Her Majesty's Government in opening on Sundays the National Museums and Galleries in the suburban districts of London and in the city of Dublin, this House is of opinion that the time has arrived for extending this action to all Museums and Galleries supported by National funds" (Mr. George Howard), [269] 1148; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 208; N. 83; M. 125 (D. L. 88)

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Warrant and Petty Officers, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Feb 9, [266] 235

Navy (*Captain Brownrigg, R.N.*)

Moved, "That there be laid before the House, Copies of Papers relating to the murder of Captain C. Brownrigg, R.N., and to the relation between England and France in our operations for the suppression of the Slave Trade" (*Admiral Sir John Hay*) Feb 14, [266] 680; after short debate, [House counted out]

Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Feb 20, 1092

Navy—*Fitters in Her Majesty's Dockyards*

Moved, "That, in the opinion of this House, it is detrimental to the public service; fatal to the efficiency of our war ships, and unjust to the Fitters in Her Majesty's Dockyards, that superintending leading men should be placed in authority over workmen with whose trades they have no practical acquaintance, or that men should be put to execute work for which they are unsuited either by training or experience" (*Mr. Broadhurst*) Mar 14, [267] 8; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Navy (*Foreign Stations*)—*Nominations to Death Vacancies*

Moved for, "Returns of the number of deaths of commissioned officers on the different foreign naval stations each year for the last five years" (*Viscount Sidmouth*) July 7, [271] 1763; after short debate, Motion agreed to (P.P. 196)

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Navy (Ship-Building)

Moved for Return, "1. Steam ships (ironclad) now building, &c.; 2. Swift cruisers now building, &c.; 3. The number of vessels to be laid down during the present year" (*Viscount Sidmouth*) Aug 1, [273] 362; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

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Navy—Shipbuilding Policy of the Admiralty

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty for Returns of the number and armament of ships of war in the navies of Foreign Powers, number and weight of guns carried by them, with the number of torpedo boats at the present time, and the estimated naval forces that are expected to be at the disposal of each Power at the expiration of three years from the present date" (*The Viscount Sidmouth*) July 18, [272] 844; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Navy—Strength of the Navy

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 20. To leave out from "That," and add "owing to the enormous increase in the Ironclad Navies of the world, the Trade and Commerce of the Empire is endangered, and that it is desirable that steps should be at once taken to make an adequate addition to the strength of the Navy" (*Lord Henry Lennox*) v. [268] 1037; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Question put, and agreed to

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Moved, "That the case of the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the University of Oxford, and the case of the University of Oxford Commissioners in regard to a statute made by them for the University of Oxford concerning the nomination of examiners, as presented to the Universities Committee of the Privy Council and as argued before that Committee, be laid upon the Table of the House" (*The Earl of Camperdown*) June 29, [271] 765; Motion agreed to

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Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty that She will be graciously pleased to withhold her consent from the Statutes proposed by the University of Oxford Commissioners for Jesus College, which Statutes were laid upon the Table of this House on the 7th of February last" (*Mr. Hussey Vivian*) May 2, [268] 1997; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

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Moved, "That, while recognising the value of a good understanding between this Country and the Papal See, this House is of opinion that all communications between any of Her Majesty's Ministers and the authorities of the Vatican should be placed on official record in accordance with the constitutional practice in diplomatic affairs, and should be conducted with the cognizance of Parliament" (Sir Henry Wolff) *April* 18, [268] 887; after debate, Question put, and negatived

Parcel Post Bill

(Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Courtney)

c. Ordered; read 1^o *July* 24 [Bill 254]
Read 2^o, after short debate *July* 27, [272] 2115

Committee*—*r.p.* *Aug* 2

Committee; Report *Aug* 3, [273] 707

Considered; read 3^o, after short debate *Aug* 4, 871

Parcel Post Bill—cont.

1. Read 1^o (Lord Thurlow) *Aug* 7 (No. 228)

Read 2^o, after short debate *Aug* 10, 1346

Committee* *Aug* 11

Report* *Aug* 14

(No. 249)

Read 3^o* *Aug* 15

Royal Assent *Aug* 18 [45 & 46 *Vict.* c. 74]

Parish Churches Bill

(Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Courtauld, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Stanley Leighton, Mr. William Henry Gladstone)

c. Ordered; read 1^o* *Mar* 9 [Bill 99]

Read 2^o, after debate *Mar* 21, [267] 1548

Committee [Dropped]

Parish Registers Bill (Mr. Borlase, Mr.

Bryce, Mr. Mellor, Mr. Cochran-Patrick)

c. Ordered; read 1^o* *April* 19 [Bill 132]

Bill withdrawn* *July* 5

PARKER, Mr. C. S., Perth

Educational Endowments (Scotland), *Comm. cl. 1*, *Amend.* [272] 1375; *cl. 5*, 1382; *cl. 6*, 1410; *cl. 7*, 1416; *cl. 13*, 1449, 1452; *cl. 21*, 1467; Preamble, 1478; *Consid. cl. 6*, [273] 513; *cl. 13*, 520; *cl. 15*, 528; 3R. 544; Lords *Amendts.* *Consid.* 1872

Fishery Board (Scotland), *Comm. cl. 4*, [273] 1789, 1790; *cl. 5*, 1793

Licensing Laws (Scotland), 2R. [269] 439, 440
Parliament—Business of the House—Vote of Credit, [272] 1336

Parliament—Business of the House—New Rules of Procedure—Fourth Rule (Divisions), [274] 1569, 1570; *Amend.* 1579; Ninth Rule (Order in Debate), 1764

Parliament

LORDS—

MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENT *Feb* 7

The Parliament opened by Commission

Her Majesty's Most Gracious Speech

266] delivered by The Lord Chancellor *Feb* 7, 3
The Queen's Speech having been reported by The Lord Chancellor; An Address to Her Majesty thereon moved by The Earl of Fingall (the Motion being seconded by The Lord Wenlock) *Feb* 7, 8; after long debate, Address agreed to, *nemine dissentiente*

HER MAJESTY'S ANSWER TO THE ADDRESS reported *Feb* 10, 366

Chairman of Committees—The Earl of Redesdale appointed, *nemine dissentiente*, to take the Chair in all Committees of this House for this Session *Feb* 7

Committee for Privileges—appointed *Feb* 7

Sub-Committee for the Journals—appointed *Feb* 7

Appeal Committee—appointed *Feb* 7

Office of the Clerk of the Parliaments and Office of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod—Select Committee appointed *Feb* 24: The Lords following were named of the Committee:—Ld. Chancellor, Ld. President, Ld. Privy Seal, D. Richmond, D. Saint Albans,

[cont.]

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—LORDS—*cont.*

M. Lansdowne, M. Salisbury, M. Bath, M. Hertford, Ld. Steward, E. Devon, E. Doncaster, E. Tankerville, E. Carnarvon, E. Bradford, E. Granville, E. Kimberley, E. Redesdale, E. Lathom, V. Hawarden, V. Hardinge, V. Eversley, Ld. Chamberlain, L. Colville of Culross, L. Monson, L. Colchester, and L. Aveland

Standing Orders Committee appointed Feb 24: The Lords following, with the Chairman of Committees, were named of the Committee:—D. Somerset, M. Winchester, M. Lansdowne, M. Bath, M. Hertford, Ld. Steward, E. Devon, E. Carnarvon, E. Cadogan, E. Belmore, E. Chichester, E. Powis, E. Verulam, E. Morley, E. Stradbroke, E. Amherst, E. Camperdown, E. Lathom, V. Hawarden, V. Hutchinson, V. Hardinge, V. Eversley, V. Halifax, L. Saye and Sele, L. Balfour of Burley, L. Colville of Culross, L. Boyle, L. Monson, L. Digby, L. Carrington, L. Colchester, L. Silchester, L. De Tabley, L. Sudeley, L. Belper, L. Ebury, L. Egerton, L. Hartismere, L. Penrhyn, and L. Wolverton

Committee of Selection—The Lords following, viz:—M. Lansdowne, E. Lathom, L. Colville of Culross, and L. Boyle, were appointed, with the Chairman of Committees, a Committee to select and propose to the House the names of the five Lords to form a Select Committee for the consideration of each opposed Private Bill Feb 24

Judicial Business—Standing Order, No. VII—Amendment

Standing Order, No. VII., applicable to Appeals, considered Feb 27, [266] 1685

Moved, "That the said Order be amended by omitting the words ('severally dating from the presentation of the Appeal')" (*The Lord Chancellor*); Motion agreed to; Standing Order amended (No. 22)

Judicial Business, Ordered, That for the purposes of the Judicial Business of the House, Friday the 10th day of November next be deemed the "first sitting day after the Recess" Oct 24

Private Bills

Ordered, That this House will not receive any petition for a Private Bill after Friday the 10th day of March next, unless such Private Bill shall have been approved by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice; nor any Petition for a Private Bill approved by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice after Tuesday the 9th day of May next

That this House will not receive any report from the Judges upon petitions presented to this House for Private Bills after Tuesday the 9th day of May next

Ordered, That the said Orders be printed and published, and affixed to the doors of this House and Westminster Hall Feb 17 (No. 16)

All Petitions relating to Standing Orders which shall be presented during the present Session referred to the Standing Orders Committee unless otherwise ordered Feb 24

[*cont.*]

PARLIAMENT—LORDS—*Private Bills—cont.*

Private Bills, Ordered, That no Private Bill brought from the House of Commons shall be read a second time after Thursday the 15th day of June next [and other Orders] Mar 24, [267] 1784

Private and Provisional Order Confirmation Bills

Ordered, That Standing Orders Nos. 92 and 93 be suspended; and that the time for depositing petitions praying to be heard against Private and Provisional Order Confirmation Bills, which would otherwise expire during the adjournment of the House at Whitsuntide, be extended to the first day on which the House shall sit after the recess

Speaker of this House April 24, [268] 1204

Several Peers appointed by Commission to be Speakers of this House in the absence of the Lord Chancellor

Privilege—Incorrect Reports of Speeches, Observations, Lord Denman July 10, [271] 1880

Public Business—The House of Lords—The Local Government Bill, Question, Observations, The Earl of Camperdown, Earl Stanhope; Replies, Lord Carrington, Earl Granville June 20, [270] 1719

Business of the House—The Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, Amendment Bill, Question, Observations, The Earl of Galloway; Reply, Lord Carlingford; short debate thereon June 26, [271] 363

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Acts—The Macclesfield Election—Convicted Solicitors, The Question, Observations, Lord Stanley of Alderley; Reply, The Earl of Rosebery; Observations, Lord Dunstany Feb 10, [266] 387;—*Reported Magistrates—The Case of Captain Pearson*, Question, Observations, Lord Stanley of Alderley; Reply, The Lord Chancellor Mar 14, [267] 871

Public Business—The Easter Recess, Question, The Earl of Redesdale; Answer, Earl Granville Mar 20, [267] 1254

The Autumn Sitting, Moved, "That this House adjourn during pleasure" (*The Lord Privy Seal*) Aug 14, [273] 1673; after short debate, Motion agreed to

The Adjournment—Business of the House, Ministerial Statement, Earl Granville; Observations, The Marquess of Salisbury Aug 15, [273] 1795

House adjourned to Tuesday, 24th October
Question, The Marquess of Salisbury; Answer, Earl Granville Oct 26, [274] 160; Moved, "That the House do adjourn to Friday the 10th day of November next" (*The Earl Granville*); after short debate, Motion agreed to

Business of the House—Sittings of the House

Moved, "That, in the opinion of this House, the sittings for public business should commence at Four P.M. instead of at Five P.M." (*The Earl of Camperdown*) Mar 24, [267]

[*cont.*]

Parliament—Business of the House—Sittings of the House—cont.

1784; after short debate, Motion amended, and agreed to
Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the sittings for public business should commence at a quarter past Four P.M., instead of at Five P.M.

Order of Business—Precedence of Ministers

Moved, "That all questions of which notice has been given by any Peer who holds or has held any of the offices of Lord Chancellor of England, Lord President of the Council, Lord Privy Seal, First Lord of the Treasury, Secretary of State, or First Lord of the Admiralty, do take precedence of all other Orders of the Day and Notices" (*The Earl of Limerick*) June 20, [271] 763; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Claims of Peerage, &c.

Election of Representative Peers for Scotland—The Earldom of Mar, Question, Observations, The Earl of Galloway; Reply, The Earl of Redesdale; short debate thereon Feb 20, [266] 1079

Select Committee re-appointed (*The Earl of Galloway*) Mar 6; The Lords following were named of the Committee:—M. Abercorn, E. Mansfield, E. Belmore, E. Redesdale, V. Sherbrooke, L. Balfour of Burley, L. Stewart of Garlies, L. Inchiquin, L. Ker, L. Moncreiff, L. O'Hagan, L. Watson, L. Brabourne

The Earl of Milltown, the Lord Kintore, and the Lord Oxenfoord added to the Select Committee in the place of the Marquess of Abercorn, the Earl of Mansfield, and the Lord O'Hagan April 28

Report and Evidence . . . (P.P. l. 128)
Moved, That there be laid before this House, Copies of the Scottish Acts of Parliament of 1587, entitled "Ratification of the Earldom of Mar," "Ratification of the Baronie of Blyth;" also Copies of the Scottish Act of 1587 entitled "An Act in favor of the Erle of Mar," as well as all other Scottish Acts ratifying grants or re-grants of Peerages with lands under Royal Charter, with a view to their being translated into modern English for the use of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the law respecting the claims and assumptions of titles of Peerages in Scotland, &c.

That the Act 10th and 11th Vict., chap. LII. (52.) (passed 25th June 1847), in reference to "dormant or extinct" Peerages in Scotland, be re-printed with a view to the correction of a misprint in line 10 of the preamble on the first page, which recites erroneously the words of intitulation of the Act 6th Anne, chap. 23 (*The Earl of Galloway*) Mar 13, [267] 727; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Claims to Vote for Representative Peers for Ireland—Standing Order LXXX.

Postponement of Motion, The Earl of Redesdale Feb 27, [266] 1686

Claims to Vote for Representative Peers for Ireland—Standing Order LXXX.—cont.

Moved, "That Standing Order No. LXXX. be amended by inserting after the words ('admitted by the House of Lords') the following words; viz., ('or by virtue of any Peerage in which the limitations in the Irish Patent, the Petitioner being a Peer of England, Great Britain, or the United Kingdom, shall be the same as the limitations in the Patent in right of which the Petitioner sits in the House of Lords as a Peer of England, Great Britain, or the United Kingdom'" (*The Earl of Redesdale*) Mar 16; Motion agreed to

Representative Peers of Ireland

Moved, "That the Clerk of the Crown and Hanaper do make a Return of the dates of the issue of the writs for the election of all Representative Peers of Ireland who have been elected since the year 1850; and also of the dates of the receipt of the latest return in each case which has been sent in to the Hanaper Office in obedience to such writs" (*The Earl of Belmore*) Mar 27, [268] 4; Motion amended, and agreed to
Return presented, and ordered to be printed Mar 30 (No. 54)

The House of Lords—Reporting—Accommodation for the Reporters

Moved, "That until the end of the Session the reporters be provided with temporary accommodation on each side of the Peers' Gallery under the two centre windows" (*The Earl Beauchamp*) July 6, [271] 1580; after debate, Motion withdrawn

COMMONS—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH

The QUEEN'S SPEECH having been reported by Mr. Speaker; An humble Address thereon moved by Mr. MARJORIBANKS (the Motion 266] being seconded by Mr. FIRTH) Feb 7, 123;
Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*); Motion agreed to; Debate adjourned

. Debate resumed [Second Night] Feb 8, 143

After debate, Amendt. at end of the Address, to add "And humbly to assure Her Majesty that, in the opinion of this House, the only efficacious remedy for the deplorable condition of Ireland is a readjustment of the political relation established between Great Britain and Ireland by the Act of Legislative Union of 1800" (*Mr. P. J. Smyth*), 193;
Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" after further debate, Debate adjourned

The Address—Amendment of Mr. P. J. Smyth, Question, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answer, Mr. P. J. Smyth Feb 9, 249

. Debate resumed [Third Night] Feb 9, 250; after debate, Question put; A. 37, N. 93; M. 56 (D. L. 3)

. Original Question again proposed, 275

Amendt. proposed, at the end thereof, to add, "Humbly to assure Your Majesty that this House regards with grave concern the action of the Executive in Ireland, whereby the

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PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—cont.

liberties of Members of this House have been outraged, and the performance of their constitutional duties rendered impossible; whereby hundreds of Your Majesty's subjects in Ireland are detained in prison without trial or the right of Habeas Corpus, many of them on the alleged suspicion of offences for which, even if duly tried and found guilty, they could not have been subjected to punishment as severe as that which they have already undergone; whereby the lawful organization of the Irish tenantry has been arbitrarily suppressed at a most critical moment, when its maintenance was essential to the due protection of their legal rights, while the organisation of the Irish landlords against those rights has been encouraged and supported; whereby ladies engaged in the work of public charity have been threatened, harassed, and imprisoned under obsolete statutes and on nominal pretexts; whereby the liberty of the Press has been illegally interfered with, the right of free speech, of public meeting, and of lawful constitutional agitation has been abrogated; whereby innocent persons have been killed and wounded by the armed forces of the Crown; whereby the verdicts of coroners' juries, incriminating the agents of the Executive, have been disregarded; whereby large districts of the Country have been placed under a system of quasi-martial Law; whereby rewards have been offered by the Government for secret information as to crimes to be committed, tending to the demoralisation of the people and the creation of perjured evidence against innocent persons; which action generally has caused in the minds of the people of Ireland a profound distrust of the execution of the Law; and humbly to assure Your Majesty that an immediate abandonment of all coercive measures, and the establishment of constitutional government in Ireland, with full recognition of the rights and liberties of the Irish people, are essentially necessary for the peace and prosperity of that realm and of the United Kingdom" (*Mr. Justin McCarthy*); Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" after debate, Debate further adjourned

266] Debate resumed [Fourth Night] Feb 10, 388; after long debate, Debate further adjourned

. Debate resumed [Fifth Night] Feb 13, 504; after long debate, Debate further adjourned

. Debate resumed [Sixth Night] Feb 14, 647; after debate, Question put; A. 30, N. 98; M. 68 (D. L. 8)

Main Question put; A. 87, N. 22; M. 65 (D. L. 9)

Committee appointed, "to draw up an Address to be presented to Her Majesty upon the said Resolution:"—*Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Bright, Lord Frederick Cavendish, Mr. Secretary Childers, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Firth, Mr. William Edward Forster, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Richard Grosvenor, The Marquess of Hartington, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Marjoribanks, Mr. Mundella, Mr. Solicitor General, and Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland*

[cont,

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—cont.

Report of Address brought up, and read Feb 15, 266] 692

Moved, "That the said Address be read 2^o;" after long debate, Debate adjourned

. Debate resumed [Second Night] Feb 16, 795; after long debate, Debate further adjourned

Personal Explanation, *Mr. O'Donnell* Feb 21, 1232

. Debate resumed [Third Night] Feb 17, 985; after long debate, Question put; A. 129, N. 14; M. 115 (D. L. 11); Address agreed to Her Majesty's Answer to the Address reported Feb 21, 1224

Privileges, Committee of Privileges appointed Feb 7

Standing Orders, Select Committee nominated Feb 9, as follows:—*Sir John Mowbray* (Chairman), *Sir Edward Colebrooke*, *Mr. Cubitt*, *Mr. Floyer*, *Mr. Monk*, *Mr. Mulholland*, *Mr. Denis O'Connor*, *Lord Arthur Russell*, *Sir David Wedderburn*, *Mr. Whitbread*, and *Mr. Yorke*

Selection, Committee nominated Feb 9, as follows:—*Sir John Mowbray* (Chairman), *Mr. Cubitt*, *Sir Charles Forster*, *Mr. Mitchell Henry*, *Mr. Orr Ewing*, and *Mr. Whitbread*

Public Petitions, Select Committee appointed and nominated Feb 10, as follows:—*Sir Charles Forster* (Chairman), *Mr. Cavendish Bentinck*, *Mr. Charles Dalrymple*, *Colonel Digby*, *Mr. Lowther*, *Mr. M'Lagan*, *Mr. Mulholland*, *Viscount Newport*, *Mr. O'Connor*, *Mr. Richard Power*, *Marquess of Stafford*, *Marquess of Tavistock*, *Mr. Charles Tennant*, *Mr. Hanbury-Tracy*, and *Mr. Reginald Yorke*

Kitchen and Refreshment Rooms (*House of Commons*), Standing Committee appointed and nominated Feb 13, as follows:—*Sir William Dyke* (Chairman), *Mr. Maurice Brooks*, *Mr. Henry Edwards*, *Sir Edmund Filmer*, *Sir Gabriel Goldney*, *Mr. Guest*, *Sir Arthur Hayter*, *Lord Kensington*, *Mr. Monk*, *Mr. Muntz*, *Captain O'Shea*, *Mr. Richard Power*, *Lord Henry Thynne*, and *Sir Henry Wolff*

Public Accounts Committee, Select Committee nominated May 15, as follows:—*Sir Walter B. Barttelot*, *Mr. Leonard Courtney*, *Mr. Gorst*, *Sir Henry Holland*, *Mr. Laing*, *Sir John Lubbock*, *Sir Charles Mills*, *Mr. Rylands*, *Mr. Seely*, *Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson*, and *Mr. Shaw*

The Printing Committee—*Mr. Parnell*, Question, *Mr. R. Power*; Answer, *Mr. Gladstone* May 4, [269] 97

Printing, Select Committee appointed May 15, as follows:—*Mr. Leonard Courtney*, *Mr. Parnell*, *Sir Joseph Pease*, *Mr. Ramsay*, *Mr. William Henry Smith*, *Mr. Stansfeld*, *Mr. Tottenham*, *Mr. Spencer Walpole*, *Mr. Whitbread*, and *Mr. Rowland Winn*

Committee for Privileges, Sessional Order amended July 31, [273] 150

PRIVATE BILLS

Private and Provisional Order Confirmation Bills

Ordered, That Standing Orders Nos. 92 and 93. be suspended; and that the time for depositing petitions praying to be heard against Private and Provisional Order Con-

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PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*Private and Provisional Order Confirmation Bills*—cont.

firmation Bills, which would otherwise expire during the adjournment of the House at Easter, be extended to the first day on which the House shall sit after the recess *Mar 30*

Ordered, That Standing Orders 129 and 39 be suspended, and that the time for depositing Petitions against Private Bills, or against any Bill to confirm any Provisional Order, or Provisional Certificate, and for depositing duplicates of any Documents relating to any Bill to confirm any Provisional Order, or Provisional Certificate, be extended to Monday the 17th instant *April 4*

Standing Order 167

Select Committee appointed, "to consider and report whether Standing Order 167, prohibiting the payment of interest or dividend on calls during the construction of a Railway, shall be retained or modified" *April 4*, [268] 659

Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Baxter, Mr. H. R. Brand, Mr. Salt, Mr. Shaw, and Colonel Walrond
Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, Mr. Lyon Playfair *June 9*, [270] 664; Question, Mr. H. R. Brand; Answer, Mr. Lyon Playfair *July 27*, [272] 1968

Resolved, That Standing Orders 129 and 39 be suspended, and that the time for depositing Petitions against Private Bills, or against any Bill to confirm any Provisional Order, or Provisional Certificate, and for depositing duplicates of any Documents relating to any Bill to confirm any Provisional Order, or Provisional Certificate, be extended to Thursday 1st June (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*) *May 26*

Standing Orders

Standing Order 26, read and amended
New Standing Order, to follow Standing Order 34
Standing Order 73, read and amended
New Standing Order, to follow Standing Order 203
Standing Order 210 read, and amended
Standing Order 225a read, and amended (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*) *May 26*, [269] 1698

Standing Orders

Standing Order 129 amended, in lines 9 and 10, by leaving out the words "the Report of the Examiner on such Bill," and inserting the words "the Examiner shall have given notice of the day on which the Bill will be examined" instead thereof (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*) *June 5*

Standing Orders

New Standing Order to follow Standing Order 173 (*Mr. Slater-Booth*) *Aug 8*, [273] 1129; after short debate, Debate adjourned
Debate resumed *Aug 11*, 1498

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*Standing Orders*—cont.

Amendt. proposed, after "Bill presented by," insert "or conferring powers on" (*Mr. Lyon Playfair*); after debate, Question put, and agreed to

Amendt. proposed, in Section (a), after "conflict with," insert "deviation from" (*Mr. Lyon Playfair*); Question put, and agreed to

Amendt. proposed, at end, add "And the Report of the Committee shall be printed and shall be circulated with the Votes" (*Mr. Lyon Playfair*); Question put, and agreed to

Moved, "That the said Order be a Standing Order of the House;" after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Other New Standing Orders moved, and agreed to; other Standing Orders amended

Ordered, That Standing Order No. 144. be suspended for the remainder of the Session *Aug 8*

Standing Orders Nos. 3, 4, 26, 62, 63, 65, 67, 72, and the Appendix, considered and amended *Aug 10*, [273] 1327

The New Rules, Questions, Mr. Sexton, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answers, Mr. Speaker *July 5*, [271] 1512; Questions, Mr. Arthur Arnold, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Speaker *July 6*, 1619

Provisional Orders and Certificates

Ordered, That Standing Order 39 be suspended, and that the time for depositing duplicates of any Documents relating to any Bill to confirm any Provisional Order, or Provisional Certificate, be extended to Tuesday 24th October (*The Chairman of Ways and Means*) *Aug 16*

Private Bills—Electric Lighting Bills, Question, Sir James McGarel Hogg; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Feb 20*, [266] 1087

Private Bills—Railway Bills—The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, Question, Mr. Gregory; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Feb 10*, [266] 374

Private Bills—Sale of Canals to Railway Companies, Question, Mr. Salt; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Mar 16*, [267] 1025

Private (Hybrid) Bills—Forth Bridge Railway Bill, Question, Mr. Bolton; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley *April 21*, [268] 1101; Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *April 28*, 1668

RULES AND ORDERS OF THE HOUSE

Messages from the Crown—Rule 298, Observations, Questions, Mr. Lewis, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Speaker *Mar 23*, [267] 1689

Order—Alteration of Questions, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan *Nov 2*, [274] 631; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Healy*); after debate, Motion withdrawn

Order in Debate—Entries on the Votes—Mr. O'Kelly, M.P. for Roscommon, Observations, Questions, Mr. Healy, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Speaker *June 7*, [270] 365

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PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—Rules and Orders of the House—cont.

Order—The Precincts of the House—The Home Secretary and Mr. Anderson, Notice of Question, Mr. Callan; Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. Speaker; Observations, Mr. Anderson, Sir William Harcourt *April 3*, [268] 558

Order

Parliamentary Oath, The, Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Mr. Callan; Answers, Mr. Speaker *Mar 8*, [267] 440

Sunday Closing (Wales) Act, Observations, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Reply, Mr. Speaker; Observations, Mr. Warton *Feb 16*, [266] 789

RULES OF DEBATE

The Half-past Twelve O'Clock Rule—Blocking Notices, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Speaker *Feb 9*, [266] 248

Morning Sittings—The 6.50 p.m. Rule—Precedence of Amendments, Observations, Lord George Hamilton; Reply, The Chairman *July 11*, [272] 94

Practice of the House—The Dinner Hour, Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington; Question, Mr. Gorst; [No answer] *Feb 17*, [266] 982

Amendments—Precedence in Committee, Question, Mr. Healy; Answer, Mr. Speaker *June 6*, [270] 82

Explanation—Mr. P. Egan and Mr. Forster, Observations, Mr. Dillon; Question, Mr. Macartney; Answer, Mr. Speaker *May 19*, [269] 1095

"Leave of the House," Question, Mr. Stanley Leighton; Answer, Mr. Speaker *Nov 16*, [274] 1557

Production of Quoted Documents, Observations, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. Trevelyan; Question, Mr. Gibson; [no reply] *Nov 30*, [275] 408

Questions and Answers, Notices, Mr. McCoan, Mr. O'Donnell; Question, Mr. O'Kelly; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *June 19*, [270] 1581;—*Alteration of Questions—Release of Persons detained under the Protection of Person and Property (Ireland) Act, 1881*, Questions, Sir Herbert Maxwell, Mr. Arthur O'Connor, Mr. A. J. Balfour; Answers, Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Speaker, [270] 1591

Rights of Seconders, Observations, Question, Viscount Folkestone; Reply, Mr. Speaker *Mar 14*, [267] 893

Un-Parliamentary Language, Observations, Mr. Macartney; short debate thereon *June 16*, [270] 1277

PRIVILEGE

Interference of Peers in Elections—The North Riding Election, Observations, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Reply, Mr. Speaker *Feb 16*, [266] 787

Votes of Peers—The Cambridge University Election, Questions, Mr. Ashton Dilke, Mr. J. Lowther; Answers, The Attorney General *Nov 24*, [275] 13

Premature Publication of Parliamentary Papers, Questions, Mr. Stewart MacIver; Answers, Mr. Courtney *June 27*, [271] 540

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PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—cont.

Official Reports—Surreptitious Publication, Questions, Mr. Arthur Arnold, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. George Howard, Mr. Mitchell Henry; Answers, Sir William Harcourt *July 24*, [272] 1538

Reports of Select Committees, Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Evelyn Ashley *June 22*, [271] 40

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE AND PUBLIC BUSINESS

The Count-out on Thursday, Observations, Mr. Callan, Lord Kensington *Feb 10*, [266] 385;—*Arrangement of Business*, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Feb 23*, [274] 4; Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Rylands, Mr. Schreiber, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Frederick Cavendish *Feb 24*, 1538

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Order of Business, Questions, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Lord John Manners; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Oct 25, 73;—*The Prorogation*,

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- Question, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Oct 30, 382;—*Lord Mayor's Dinner*, Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 2, 671;—*Arabi Pasha*, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Bourke, Mr. O'Connor Power, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Onslow, Mr. Molloy; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Nov 1312;—*Mr. Bradlaugh*, Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 21, 1175;—*Egypt (Employment of Her Majesty's Force)*, Question, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 29, 314

SITTING AND ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Ash Wednesday—The Theatres, Question, Mr. Woodall; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Feb 21, [266] 1229
Moved, "That this House will meet Tomorrow, at Two of the clock" (*Mr. Gladstone*) 1265; Question put; A. 181, N. 36; M. 1 (D. L. 16)

Resolved, That whenever the House shall meet at Two of the Clock, the Sittings of the House shall be held subject to the Resolutions of the House of the 30th day of April 1869 (*Lord Frederick Cavendish*) Mar 24

Ascension Day—Committees

Ordered, That Committees shall not sit tomorrow, being Ascension Day, until Two of the clock, and have leave to sit till Six of the clock, notwithstanding the sitting of the House (*Mr. Gladstone*) May 17

The Easter Recess, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar [267] 1297; Moved, "That this House, at its rising, do adjourn until Monday 1st April" (*Mr. Gladstone*) April 4; [268] 68 after long debate, Motion agreed to

The Whitsuntide Recess, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir R. Assheton Cross, Mr. Anderson, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answers, Mr. Gladstone May 18, 958; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone May 24, 1534; Moved, "That this House, at its rising, do adjourn until Thursday 1st June" (*Mr. Gladstone*) May 26, 1698; after short debate, Motion withdrawn; Moved, "That this House, at its rising, do adjourn until Thursday 1st of June" (*Mr. Gladstone*) 1711; after debate, Motion agreed to

The Autumn Sitting, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Healy, Mr. Warton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 11, [273] 1526

Adjournment of the House, Resolved, That the House will, at the rising of the House tomorrow, adjourn till Tuesday the 24th of October next (*Mr. Gladstone*) Aug [273] 2049

Moved, "That the House do adjourn Tuesday 24th October" (*The Marquess Hartington*) Aug 18; Motion agreed to

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Adjournment—The Appropriation Act—Constitutional Practice, Observations, Lord Randolph Churchill Oct 24, [274] 3; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Lord Randolph Churchill*); after debate, Question put; A. 142, N. 209; M. 67 (D. L. 341)

Adjournment, Observations, Mr. Parnell; Question, Mr. Onslow; Answer, Mr. Speaker Nov 23, [274] 1938; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Parnell*); after long debate, Motion withdrawn

The Prorogation, Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Sir Wilfrid Lawson; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington Dec 1, [275] 495

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Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill—Dublin Petition, Petition presented, The Lord Mayor of Dublin (*Mr. Dawson*) June 20, [270] 1748

The Houses of Parliament—Meeting of the Reform Club, Question, Captain Aylmer; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 24, [267] 1817

The House of Lords, Questions, Mr. Schreiber; Answers, Mr. Speaker Mar 7, [267] 388

Seats of Members in this House, Observations, Mr. Speaker May 9, [269] 340

The Ministry—Rumoured Resignation of Mr. Bright, Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, [272] Lord Richard Grosvenor July 14, 561; Questions, Mr. J. Lowther; Answers, Mr. Chamberlain July 15, 565; Observations, Mr. John Bright, Mr. Gladstone July 17, 722

PALACE OF WESTMINSTER

Connection with the Telephone Exchange, Question, Mr. Gray; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre July 20, [272] 1086

New House of Commons, Question, Captain Aylmer; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 3, [274] 767

The Central Hall, Question, Mr. Schreiber; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Nov 23, [274] 1916

The Clock Tower, Questions, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Healy; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 27, [268] 28

The Electric Light, Question, Mr. Donaldson-Hudson; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Mar 13, [267] 741

The Strangers' Gallery, Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre June 5, [270] 71

Ventilation of this House, Question, Mr. O'Shea; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre July 25, [272] 1686

Parliament—*Arrangement of Public Business—Adjourned Debate on the Address—Postponement of Notices of Motions and Orders of the Day*

Moved, "That the Notices of Motions be postponed until after the Order of the Day for resuming the Adjourned Debate on the Motion for an Address to Her Majesty" (*Mr. Gladstone*) Feb 14, 642; after short debate, Motion agreed to

Moved, "That the Orders of the Day be postponed until after the Resolutions relating to the Business of the House, of which Notice has been given" (*Mr. Gladstone*) Feb 20, 1107; after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Sir John Hay*); after further short debate, Question put, and negative; original Question put, and agreed to

Moved, "That the Orders of the Day be postponed until after the Notice of Motion relating to the Irish Land Act" (*Mr. Gladstone*) Feb 27, 1711; after debate, Question put; A. 300, N. 167; M. 133 (D. L. 28)

Parliament—*Arrangement of Public Business—The Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Bill*

Moved, "That the several stages of the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill and the Adjourned Debate on the Second Reading of the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Bill, have precedence of all Orders of the Day and Notices of Motions, from day to day, until the House shall otherwise order" (*Mr. Gladstone*) May 23, [269] 1408

After short debate, Amendt. proposed, to leave out "the several stages of the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill and" (*Mr. Healy*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" Question put; A. 228, N. 31; M. 197 (D. L. 95)

Amendt. proposed, to leave out "Adjourned Debate on Second Reading of the" (*Sir George Campbell*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 250, N. 35; M. 215 (D. L. 96); after short debate, main Question put; A. 254, N. 15; M. 239 (D. L. 97)

Ministerial Statement, Mr. Gladstone June 20, [270] 1769

Moved, "That the Arrears of Rent (Ireland) Bill have precedence, on every day for which it is set down, of all other Orders of the Day and Notices of Motions, except the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill" (*Mr. Gladstone*); after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. R. N. Fowler*); after further short debate, Motion withdrawn

Original Question put; A. 253, N. 97; M. 156 (D. L. 158)

Parliament—*Call of the House*

Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 23, [267] 1671

Moved, "That this House be called over on Thursday, the 30th March" (*Mr. Sexton*) Mar 23, 1770; after short debate, Question put, A. 22, N. 90; M. 68 (D. L. 59)

Parliament—Oxford, Gloucester, and Sandwich Writs

Moved, "That no Motion be made for a new Writ for the Cities of Oxford and Gloucester, or the Borough of Sandwich, without two days' previous Notice with the Votes, and that such Notice be considered before Orders of the Day or Notices of Motions" (*Mr. Thomas Collins*) Feb 10, [266] 472; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Parliament—Gloucester Writ

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the City of Gloucester, in the room of Thomas Robinson, esquire, whose election has been declared to be void" (*Mr. Lewis*) April 27, [268] 1574; after debate, Question put, and negatived

Parliament—Wigan New Writ

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough of Wigan, in the room of Francis Sharp Powell, esquire, whose election has been declared to be void" (*Mr. Lewis*) May 2, [268] 1946

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "no Writ be issued to fill up any vacancy occasioned by corrupt practices until this House has disposed of the Corrupt Practices (Disfranchisement) Bill" (*Baron de Ferrières*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 142, N. 220; M. 78 (D. L. 75)

Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" Amendt. withdrawn

Parliament—Wigan New Writ

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new Writ for the Election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the borough of Wigan, in the room of Francis Sharp Powell, esquire, whose Election has been declared to be void" (*Mr. Winn*) Nov 23, [274] 1897; after short debate, Motion agreed to

Parliamentary Elections

Corrupt Practices at Elections Act—The Boston Bribery Commission—The Scheduled Magistrates, Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Thomas Collins; Answers, Mr. Speaker, The Attorney General; Question, Mr. Healy [no answer] Mar 18, [267] 1000

East Cornwall Election—Speech of Mr. Courtney, Observations, Mr. Gladstone; Question, Mr. Oallan; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 30, [268] 310

Wigan Election, Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, The Attorney General Feb 24, [266] 1528

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Interference of Peers in Parliamentary Elections—The North Riding Election, Observations, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Reply, Mr. Speaker Feb 18, [266] 787; Postponement of Notice, Mr. Joseph Cowen April 21, [268] 1151

Votes of Peers—The Cambridge University Election, Questions, Mr. Ashton Dilke, Mr. J. Lowther; Answers, The Attorney General Nov 24, [275] 12

Mr. Parnell—Representation of Liverpool, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 4, [268] 676

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill, Question, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck; Answer, Mr. Gladstone June 20, [270] 1768

Parliamentary Constituencies—Register of Voters, Question, Mr. Bryce; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Feb 27, [266] 1695;—*Voting Papers*, Observations, Mr. Warton Aug 4, [273] 791

Parliamentary Representation—The Vacant Seats, Questions, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Onslow; Answers, The Attorney General Mar 14, [267] 881; Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 16, 1019;—*Return No. 88 (Revenue, Taxation and Population)*, Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Lord Frederick Cavendish April 20, [268] 979

Parliament—Business of the House (Bills in Progress)

Moved, "That it is desirable that the practice of this House should be so amended that the consideration of Bills which have passed a Second Reading but have not become law shall be resumed in the succeeding Session of the same Parliament at the stage of Committee" (*Mr. Edward Clarke*) Feb 21, [266] 1285

Motion made, and Previous Question proposed (*Mr. Beresford Hope*); after debate, Motion withdrawn

Original Question put; A. 61, N. 126; M. 65 (D. L. 17)

Parliament—Business of the House—The Half-Past Twelve O'Clock Rule—Standing Committees

Standing Order 18th February, 1879

Moved, "That the Standing Order of the 18th February, 1879, be amended, by adding, at the end thereof, the words 'Motions for the appointment or nomination of Standing Committees be excepted from the operation of this Order'" (*Sir Henry Holland*) May 9, [269] 341

Amendt. proposed, after "Committees," to insert "Sessional Motions and Proceedings made in accordance with the provisions of any Act of Parliament or Standing Order, and Motions for leave to bring in a Bill, and the stages subsequent to Committee" (*Sir John Lubbock*); Question proposed, "That those words be there inserted;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Amendt. proposed, after "Committees," to insert "and Proceedings made in accordance

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with the provisions of any Act of Parliament or Standing Order;" Question, "That those words be there inserted," put, and agreed to; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Parliament—Arrangement of Public Business—Business of the House (Urgency)

Moved, "That the Orders of the Day be postponed till after the Notice of Motion relating to the Business of the House 271] (Urgency)" (*Mr. Gladstone*) July 3, 1803; after short debate, Question put; A. 135, N. 27; M. 108 (D. L. 233)

Moved, "That the Resolution of the 3rd February 1881, relating to Urgency in the Business of the House, be revived" (*Mr. Gladstone*) July 3, 1805

Amendt. at end of Question, add "Provided, That so much of the Resolution, as requires that the Question be resolved in the affirmative by a majority of not less than three to one, be dispensed with" (*Mr. Parnell*); Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" after debate, Question put; A. 41, N. 184; M. 143 (D. L. 234)

Original Question again proposed, 1318

Amendt. at end of Question, add "with reference to the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill" (*Earl Percy*); Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" after short debate, Question put, and negatived

Original Question put; A. 259, N. 31; M. 228 (D. L. 235)

Resolved, That the Resolution of the 3rd of February 1881, relating to Urgency in the Business of the House, be revived

Parliament—State of Public Business (Urgency)

Moved, "That the Orders of the Day be postponed until after the Notice of Motion relating to the Business of the House 271] (Urgency)" (*Mr. Gladstone*) July 4, 1391; after short debate, Question put; A. 391, N. 20; M. 371 (D. L. 238)

Moved, "That the state of Public Business is urgent" (*Mr. Gladstone*), 1392; Question put; A. 401, N. 19; M. 382

Div. List, A. and N., 1392

Observations, Mr. Speaker July 4, 1395

RULES framed by Mr. Speaker for the Regulation of the Business of the House, while the State of Public Business is Urgent—RULES Regulating the Proceedings of a Committee of the Whole House upon any Bill or other Matter declared Urgent, 1396

Parliament—Business of the House—The New Rules of Procedure

Notice of Resolutions, Mr. Gladstone Feb 7, 266] 97; Notices of Motion, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Sexton, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mr. Marriott Feb 9, 232; Notice, Sir

Parliament—Business of the House—The New Rules of Procedure—cont.

266] Stafford Northcote Feb 10, 372; Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Feb 14, 641; Observations, Mr. Gladstone Feb 15, 763; Observations, The Marquess of Hartington; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Labouchere, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Mitchell Henry, Mr. Gorst; Answers, The Marquess of Hartington Feb 16, 794

The First Resolution (Putting the Question)

Moved, "That when it shall appear to Mr. Speaker, or to the Chairman of a Committee of the whole House, during any Debate, to be the evident sense of the House, or of the Committee, that the Question be now put, he may so inform the House, or the Committee; and, if a Motion be made 'That the Question be now put,' Mr. Speaker, or the Chairman, shall forthwith put such Question; and, if the same be decided in the affirmative, the Question under discussion shall be put forthwith: Provided that the Question shall not be decided in the affirmative, if a Division be taken, unless it shall appear to have been supported by more than two hundred Members, or unless it shall appear to have been opposed by less than forty Members and supported by more than one hundred Members" (*Mr. Gladstone*) Feb 20, 1124

After debate, Amendt. to leave out from the first word "That," and add "no Rules of Procedure will be satisfactory to this House which confer the power of closing a Debate upon a majority of Members" (*Mr. Marriott*) v., 1172; Question proposed, "That the words 'when it shall appear to Mr. Speaker,' stand part of the Question;" after further debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Raikes*); Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned

Power of the Clôture in Colonial Assemblies,

Explanation, Mr. Gladstone Feb 21, 1232

267] Notice, Lord John Manners Mar 9, 450;—*The Clôture*, Question, Mr. Anderson; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 14, 891; Question, Mr. Selater-Booth; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 16, 1020; Question, Observations, Sir Stafford Northcote; Reply, Mr. Speaker Mar 17, 1145; Notice, Mr. Gladstone Mar 20, 1301

Debate resumed [Second Night] Mar 20, 1301

Debate resumed [Third Night] Mar 23, 1704

268] Debate resumed [Fourth Night] Mar 27, 35

Amendments, Question, Lord George Hamilton; Answer, Mr. Speaker Mar 30, 313

Debate resumed [Fifth Night] Mar 30, 314; after long debate, Question put, "That the words 'when it shall appear to Mr. Speaker,' stand part of the Question;" A. 318, N. 279; M. 39

Div. List, A. and N. 422

Main Question again proposed; Debate further adjourned

Observations, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Gladstone Mar 31, 491;—*The Division on Thursday Night*, Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer,

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Parliament—Business of the House—The New Rules of Procedure—The First Resolution (Putting the Question)—cont.

268] Mr. Gladstone Mar 31, 494; Question, Mr. Pemberton; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 24, 1269

. Debate resumed [Sixth Night] May 1, 1842

The New Rules of Procedure—The First Resolution (Putting the Question), Questions, Mr. Buxton, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Ritchie

272] Answers, Mr. Gladstone July 13, 280; Adjourned Debate July 27, 2114; Question, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington; adjourned Debate on Main Question [20th February] further adjourned

Question, Mr. Ritchie; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Aug 1, 376; Ministerial Statement, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon Aug 14, 1995

Notice of Motion, Lord George Hamilton 274] Oct 27, 283; Observations, Mr. Speaker; short debate thereon, 287; Question, Mr. Newdegate; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 2, 672

Amendments to First Resolution, Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Oct 24, 33

Casual Chairmen, Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Oct 27, 283

Standing Committees, Questions, Mr. J. G. Talbot, Mr. Gorst, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Nov 7, 953; Question, Mr. J. G. Talbot; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 9, 1126; Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 13, 1311; Question, Sir R. Assheton Cross; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 15, 1486; Notice, Lord John Manners Nov 16, 1558

Application of the First Rule (Putting the Question), Question, Mr. Lewis; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 13, 1327; Personal Explanation, Sir William Hart Dyke Nov 16, 1556

The Chairman of Committees, Personal Explanation, Mr. Lyon Playfair; short debate thereon Nov 22, 1859

Resolutions of Private Members, Questions, Mr. Causton, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answers, 275] Mr. Gladstone Nov 27, 121

Standing Committees—Accommodation, Questions, Mr. Alderman W. Lawrence, Sir George Campbell, Mr. Raikes; Answers, Mr. Shaw Lefevre Dec 1, 493

Moved, "That the Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure have precedence of all Orders of the Day and Notices of Motions on every day for which they may be set down" (Mr. Gladstone) Oct 24, 45; after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Chaplin); after further short debate, Question put, and negatived . Original Question again proposed, 67

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Parliament—Business of the House—The New Rules of Procedure—cont.

Amendt. to leave out "and Notices of Motions" (Mr. Raikes); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 98, N. 46; M. 50 (D. L. 342)

Main Question put; A. 98, N. 47; M. 51 (D. L. 343)

Ordered, That the Consideration of the New Rules of Procedure have precedence of all Orders of the Day and Notices of Motions on every day for which they may be set down; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Gladstone); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

The New Rules of Procedure—First Rule (Putting the Question)

Adjourned Debate on Main Question [20th February] resumed

Main Question again proposed; Debate resumed 274] [Seventh Night] Oct 25, 74

. Debate resumed [Eighth Night] Oct 26, 213

. Debate resumed [Ninth Night] Oct 27, 289

. Debate resumed [Tenth Night] Oct 30, 386

. Debate resumed [Eleventh Night] Oct 31, 472

. Debate resumed [Twelfth Night] Nov 1, 564

. Debate resumed [Thirteenth Night] Nov 2, 674

. Debate resumed [Fourteenth Night] Nov 3, 768

. Debate resumed [Fifteenth Night] Nov 6, 867

. Debate resumed [Sixteenth Night] Nov 7, 958

. Debate resumed [Seventeenth Night] Nov 8, 1028

. Debate resumed [Eighteenth Night] Nov 9, 1130

. Debate resumed [Nineteenth Night] Nov 10¹ 1206; after long debate, main Question, as amended, put; A. 304, N. 260; M. 44

Div. List, A. and N., 1283

Second Rule (Motions for Adjournment before Public Business)

Further Consideration of New Rules resumed . [Twentieth Night] Nov 13, 1329

. Debate resumed [Twenty-first Night] Nov 14, 1418

. Debate resumed [Twenty-second Night] Nov 15, 1487; after short debate, main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Third Rule (Debates on Motions for Adjournment)

Debate resumed [Twenty-third Night] Nov 16, 1559; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Fourth Rule (Divisions)

After debate, main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Fifth Rule (Irrelevances or Repetition)

After debate, main Question, as amended, put and agreed to

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Parliament—Business of the House—The New Rules of Procedure—cont.

Sixth Rule (Postponement of Preamble)

Further Consideration of New Rules resumed 274] [Twenty-fourth Night] Nov 17, 1846; after short debate, main Question put, and agreed to, without Amendment

Seventh Rule (Chairman to leave the Chair without Question)

After short debate, Question put; A. 137, N. 69; M. 68 (D. L. 376)

Eighth Rule (Half-past Twelve o'Clock Rule)

Standing Order 18 February 1879, amended 9 May 1882, read, 1851, and considered [Twenty-fifth Night] Nov 20, 1728; after long debate, Question put; A. 100, N. 12; M. 88 (D. L. 385)

Ninth Rule (Order in Debate)

Standing Order of 28 February 1880 read, 1753, and further considered [Twenty-sixth Night] Nov 21, 1798
Further considered [Twenty-seventh Night] Nov 22, 1864; after long debate, Question put, "That the Standing Order, as amended, be agreed to;" A. 161, N. 19; M. 142 (D. L. 393)

Tenth Rule (Debates on Motions for Adjournment)

Further Consideration of New Rules resumed [Twenty-eighth Night] Nov 23, 1991; after short debate, main Question, as amended, put; A. 82, N. 26; M. 56 (D. L. 395)

Eleventh Rule (Consideration of a Bill, as Amended)

Debate resumed [Twenty-ninth Night] Nov 24, 275] 67; Amendments made; main Question, as amended put; A. 67, N. 27; M. 30
Div. List, A. and N., 396

Twelfth Rule (Notices on going into Committee of Supply)

After long debate, main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Resolution 13 (That the First Seven and the Last Three of the said Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House)

Debate resumed [Thirtieth Night] Nov 27, 128; after debate, Question, put, and agreed to

II. Standing Committees

Resolution 1 (Standing Committees on Law and Courts of Justice, Trade, &c.)

Moved, "That two Standing Committees be appointed for the consideration of all Bills relating to Law and Courts of Justice, and to Trade, Shipping, and Manufactures, which may be committed to them respectively" (Mr. Gladstone), 142; after long debate, Debate adjourned

Debate resumed [Thirty-first Night] Nov 28, 295; after debate, Debate adjourned

Debate resumed [Thirty-second Night] Nov 29, 315; after debate, Debate adjourned

[cont.]

Parliament—Business of the House—The New Rules of Procedure—cont.

Debate resumed [Thirty-third Night] Nov 30, 275] 408; after long debate, Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Resolution 2 (Nomination by Committee of Selection)

Debate resumed [Thirty-fourth Night] Dec 1, 498; after long debate, Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Resolution 3 (Appointment of Chairman)

Resolution agreed to

Resolution 4 (Commitment and Report of Bills)

After debate, Resolution agreed to

Resolution 5 (Duration of Resolutions)

After debate, Resolved, That the four preceding Resolutions be Standing Orders of the House until the end of the next Session of Parliament
Standing Orders, as amended, to be printed

Parliament—Orders of the Day

Ordered, "That the Orders of the Day be postponed until after the Notice of Motion for leave to bring in a Bill for the Prevention of Crime in Ireland" (Secretary Sir William Harcourt) May 11, [269] 461

Ordered, "That the Orders of the Day subsequent to the Order for the Committee on the Ballot Act Continuance Bill be postponed until after the Notice of Motion relating to Arrears of Rent in Ireland" (Mr. Gladstone) May 15, 679

Parliament—Public Business—Orders of the Day

Moved, "That, for the remainder of the Session, Orders of the Day have precedence of Notices of Motions on Tuesday, and that Government Orders have priority; and that Government Orders have priority on Wednesday" (Mr. Gladstone) July 24, [272] 1548; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Moved, "That, until the end of August, Orders of the Day have precedence of Notices of Motions on Tuesday, and that Government Orders have priority; and that Government Orders have priority on Wednesday" (Mr. Gladstone), 1560

Parliament—Parliamentary Elections—Parliamentary Seats Vacated by Bribery—Issue of New Writs

Moved, "That in all cases where the Seat of any Member has been declared void on the ground of Bribery, no Motion for the issue of a new Writ shall be made without two days' previous Notice with the Votes, and that such Notice be considered before Orders of the Day and Notices of Motions" (Mr. Thomas Collins) Feb 10, [266] 470; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Parliament—Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh)

Mr. Bradlaugh, returned as one of the Members for the Borough of Northampton, coming to the Table to take and subscribe the Oath—debate arising, the hon. Member, according to the usual practice, withdrew to a place below the Bar. It was then

Moved, "That, having regard to the Resolutions of this House of the 22nd June 1880 and of the 26th April 1881, and to the Reports and Proceedings of two Select Committees therein referred to, Mr. Bradlaugh be not permitted to go through the form of repeating the words of the Oath prescribed by the Statute 29 Vic. c. 19, and 31 and 32 Vic. c. 72" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*) Feb 7, 57

Previous Question proposed, "That that Question be now put" (*Sir William Harcourt*)

Mr. Bradlaugh, by the pleasure of the House, having been heard

After debate, Previous Question put, "That the Original Question be now put;" A. 286, N. 228; M. 58

Div. List, A. and N., 92

Original Question put, and agreed to Mr. Bradlaugh again coming to the Table to take and subscribe the Oath, it was

Moved, "That Mr. Bradlaugh do now withdraw" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*); after short debate, Question put, and agreed to Mr. Bradlaugh withdrew accordingly
The Division, Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Feb 9, 247

Parliamentary Representation—The Borough of Northampton—Rules and Orders, No. 72, Questions, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Newdegate; Answers, The Attorney General Feb 17, 979;—Mr. Bradlaugh, Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Speaker Feb 17, 984

Parliament — Privilege — Northampton New Writ

Northampton—Refusal to Pay Taxes, Question, Mr. Callan; Answer, Sir William 266] Harcourt Feb 20, 1104

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a New Writ for the election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament in the room of Charles Bradlaugh, esquire, who, by the Resolutions of this House of the 26th April 1881, the 9th May 1881, and the 7th February 1882, respectively, has been prevented from taking and subscribing the Oath prescribed by Law, to be taken before a Member can sit and vote" (*Mr. Labouchere*) Feb 21, 1234

Amendt. to leave out from "who," and add "is disqualified by Law from taking his seat in this House" (*Lord Randolph Churchill*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and negatived; Question, "That those words be there added," put, and negatived

Main Question, as amended, put; A. 18, N. 307; M. 289 (D. L. 15)

[cont.]

Parliament—Privilege—Northampton New Writ—cont.

[Upon the numbers being declared, Mr. Bradlaugh suddenly advanced to the Table, and read from a Paper, in his hand, the words of the Oath, and having kissed a Copy of the New Testament which he had brought with him, signed the said Paper; but being ordered by Mr. Speaker to withdraw below the Bar—Mr. Bradlaugh thereupon withdrew below the Bar, leaving the said Paper and Copy of the New Testament upon the Table;—but immediately re-entered the House, and took a seat within the Bar. Thereupon Mr. Speaker called upon the hon. Member to withdraw below the Bar, and to remain there. Mr. Bradlaugh then again withdrew below the Bar]

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the election of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough of Northampton, in the room of Charles Bradlaugh, esquire, who, since his election, has sat in the House without having taken and subscribed the Oath according to 266] Law" (*Lord Randolph Churchill*), 1252; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Gladstone*); after further short debate, Motion agreed to; Debate adjourned

Question, Mr. Macfarlane; Answer, Mr. Speaker Feb 22, 1314

Debate resumed Feb 22, 1315; after debate, Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "the Serjeant-at-Arms to take steps to prevent Mr. Bradlaugh from coming within the precincts of the House" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after further short debate, Question put, and negatived

Question proposed, "That those words be there added"

Amendt. to the said proposed Amendt., to leave out all the words after the first word "the," and add "Member for Northampton, Charles Bradlaugh, in tendering himself to take an Oath which he declared to include words to him of an idle and meaningless character, was guilty of profanation; and that he be and is hereby declared incapable of sitting in this Parliament; and that he be forthwith discharged from further attendance thereon" (*Dr. Lyons*) v., 1333; Question proposed, "That the words, &c."

[Attention drawn to the fact that Mr. Bradlaugh was sitting in the House within the Bar. Whereupon Mr. Speaker again called the attention of the House to the repeated acts of disobedience of the hon. Member. Mr. Speaker called upon Mr. Bradlaugh to withdraw below the Bar. Mr. Bradlaugh accordingly withdrew]

After debate, Amendt. to Amendt. withdrawn; Amendt. withdrawn

Question "That those words be there added," put, and negatived

Amendt. after "That," to add "Charles Bradlaugh, esquire, one of the Members for the Borough of Northampton, having disobeyed the Orders of the House, and having, in contempt of the authority of this House,

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Parliament—Privilege—Northampton New Writ—cont.

irregularly and contumaciously pretended to take and subscribe the Oath required by Law, be expelled this House" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*), [266] 1341; Question proposed, "That those words be there added;" after short debate, Question put; A. 291, N. 83; M. 208 (D. L. 19) [Mr. Bradlaugh voted with the Noes]

Main Question, as amended, proposed; after short debate, main Question, as amended, put; A. 297, N. 80; M. 217 (D. L. 20)

Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new Writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the Borough of Northampton, in the room of Charles Bradlaugh, esquire, expelled this House" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*), 1347; after short debate, Motion agreed to

Parliamentary Oath—Mr. Bradlaugh

Moved, "That this House, having ascertained that Mr. Bradlaugh has been re-elected for the Borough of Northampton, doth re-affirm the Resolution made on the 7th of February last, and doth hereby direct that Mr. Bradlaugh be not permitted to go through the form of taking the Oath prescribed by the Statutes 29 Vic. c. 19, and 31 & 32 Vic. c. 72" (*Sir Stafford Northcote*) Mar 6, [267] 190

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "it is desirable that the provisions of the 29 Vic. c. 19, and 31 & 32 Vic. c. 72, should be so modified as to permit every elected Member of this House to take the Oath or to make the Affirmation prescribed under those Statutes at his own option" (*Mr. Marjoribanks*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 257, N. 242; M. 15 (D. L. 37); main Question put, and agreed to

Question, Mr. Labouchere; Answer, Mr. Speaker Mar 7, [267] 389

Privilege—New Writ for Northampton (Mr. Bradlaugh), Questions, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Mr. Speaker; Explanation, Mr. Thomas Collins Mar 24, [267] 1820

Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh)

Mr. Bradlaugh, one of the Members for Northampton, came to the Table to present to the House a Petition June 22, [271] 17

Mr. Speaker informed the honourable Member that not having taken the Oath, he was not in a position to present a Petition, and directed him to withdraw; and Mr. Bradlaugh withdrew accordingly

Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh), Communication to the House; short debate 274] thereon Nov 13, 1327; Question, Viscount Sandon; Answer, Mr. Labouchere Nov 14, 1418;—*Notices of Motion*, Observations, Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. Labouchere; Answers, Mr. Speaker; Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; [No answer] Nov 20, 1726; Question, Lord Randolph Churchill; Answer, Mr. Labouchere Nov 21, 1793

Parliament—Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh)—"Gurney v. Bradlaugh"

Question, Mr. P. A. Taylor; Answer, The Attorney General April 20, [268] 1033;—*Northampton Borough*, Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 28, 1678

Moved, "That leave be given to the proper Officer to attend the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice with the said paper writing and copy of the New Testament" (*Mr. Labouchere*) June 12, 805; Motion postponed

Moved, "That leave be given to the proper Officer to attend the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice with the said paper writing and copy of the New Testament" (*Mr. Labouchere*) June 12, 963; Motion being opposed, not proceeded with

Moved, "That leave be given to the proper Officer of this House to attend the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, with the paper writing subscribed by Mr. Charles Bradlaugh at the Table of the House on the 21st February last, and the copy of the New Testament named in the Journals of the House of the same date" (*Mr. Labouchere*) June 13, 1111; after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. E. Stanhope*); Question put; A. 65, N. 85; M. 20 (D. L. 137)

Original Question again proposed, 1125; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Lord Claud Hamilton*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Question put, and agreed to

Parliament—Privilege—"Bradlaugh v. Erskine"—Service of a Writ on the Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms

The Serjeant-at-Arms having informed the House that Mr. Erskine, Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms, had received copy of a Writ in an action brought against him by Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, Member for Northampton

After debate, Moved, "That the Communication now made to the House be taken into Consideration upon Monday next" (*Mr. Attorney General*) May 6, [269] 242

Amendt. to leave out "upon Monday next," and add "upon this day six months" (*Mr. Healy*); Question proposed, "That the words 'upon Monday next,' &c.;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Original Question put, and agreed to

Writ and other Documents considered May 9, 337

Moved, "That Leave be given to Henry David Erskine, esquire, Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms, to appear and plead in the action brought against him by Mr. C. Bradlaugh" (*Mr. Attorney General*); after short debate, Motion agreed to

Moved, "That the Attorney General be directed to defend the Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms against the said action" (*Mr. Attorney General*); Motion agreed to

Parliamentary Reform

Moved, "1. That, in the opinion of this House, it would be desirable, so soon as the state of public business shall permit, to establish Uniformity of Franchise, throughout the whole of the United Kingdom, by a Franchise similar in principle to that established in the English boroughs" (*Mr. Arthur Arnold*)

267] Mar 21, 1443

Amendt. to leave out from the first word "That," and add "no change should be made in the Electoral Franchise or the distribution of political power until full and accurate information has been laid before this House with respect to the relative advantages of various systems of Election, including proportional representation, the Cumulative Vote, and the Limited Vote, and that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire what system of Election is best calculated to secure the just representation of the opinions of all classes of Electors" (*Mr. Blenmerhasset*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Salt*); after further debate, Question put; A. 137, N. 192; M. 55 (D. L. 55)

Original Question again proposed, 1532; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. G. W. Elliot*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Original Question again proposed, 1533; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Sir H. Drummond Wolff*); Motion agreed to; Debate adjourned

Parliament—Privilege

Letters from the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, informing the House of the arrest of certain Members of this House under the Act for the better Protection of Person and Property in Ireland read Feb 7, [266] 97

Moved, "That the Letter of the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, informing the House of the arrest of Messieurs Parnell, Dillon, O'Kelly, and Sexton, Members of this House, be referred to a Select Committee, for the purpose of considering and reporting whether any of the matters referred to therein demand the further attention of the House" (*Mr. Gray*), 98; after debate, Question put; A. 45, N. 174; M. 129 (D. L. 2)

Parliament — Privilege — Mr. Edmond Dwyer Gray, M.P. (Commitment of a Member of this House)

Question, Observations, Colonel Nolan, Mr. 273] Speaker Aug 16, 1963

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House that he had received a Letter from the Right Hon. J. A. Lawson, which Letter Mr. Speaker read to the House Aug 17, 1978

Moved, "That the Letter of Mr. Justice Lawson do lie upon the Table" (*Mr. Gladstone*); after long debate, Debate adjourned (6.50)

Debate resumed Aug 17, 2019; Question put, and agreed to

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Parliament — Privilege (Mr. Edmond Dwyer Gray, M.P.)—cont.

Moved, "That the Letter of the 16th August, 1882, from the Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson to Mr. Speaker, informing the House of the commitment of Mr. Edmond Dwyer Gray, a Member of this House for contempt of Court, be referred to a Select Committee for the purpose of considering and reporting whether any of the matters referred to therein demand the further attention of the House" (*Mr. Gladstone*) Oct 24,

274] 34; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

Letter of the Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson read Oct 25, 71

After short debate, Moved, "That the said Communication be referred to the Select Committee to which the letter of the 16th August 1882, from the Right Honourable Mr. Justice Lawson to Mr. Speaker, was referred" (*Mr. Gladstone*); Motion agreed to

Nomination of Select Committee. Moved, "That the Select Committee do consist of the following Members:—Mr. Gladstone, Sir Stafford Northcote, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Whitbread, Sir John Mowbray, Mr. Raikes, Mr. Attorney General, Sir Hardinge Giffard, Mr. Plunket, Mr. Parnell, Sir Charles Forster, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Dillwyn, and Mr. Healy; Power to send for persons, papers, and records; Five to be the quorum" (*Mr. Gladstone*) Oct 27, 284

Moved, "That Mr. Healy be omitted" (*Sir Herbert Maxwell*); after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Original Question put, and agreed to

Ordered, That the Select Committee do consist of Seventeen Members; That Admiral Sir John Hay and Sir Edward Colebrooke be added to the Committee (*Sir Herbert Maxwell*) Oct 30, 385

Report of Select Committee. Report from the Select Committee on Privilege (*Mr. Gray*), with Minutes of Evidence, brought up, and read Nov 14, 1485; after short debate, Moved, "That the Report do lie upon the Table" (*Mr. Attorney General*); Debate adjourned (P.P. 408)

Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 16, 1555; Question, Sir John Hay; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 17, 1641

Debate resumed Nov 17, 1700

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "the Report and Minutes of the proceedings be re-committed to the Select Committee, so far as they relate to a paragraph referring to the Law of Contempt proposed to be added to the Report by Mr. Sexton" (*Mr. Gladstone*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after short debate, Question put, and negatived

Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to

Question, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 28, 228

**Parliament—Order—Rules of Debate—
Suspension of Members**

Mr. Clifford Lloyd—Circular by the Inspector of Police, County Clare, Question, Mr. Sexton; Answer, Mr. W. E. Forster April 20, 1868] 988; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Sexton*)

Mr. Redmond, Member for New Ross, having been named by Mr. SPEAKER as disregarding the authority of the Chair, after debate, Moved, "That Mr. Redmond be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting" (The Marquess of Hartington), 1016; Question put; A. 207, N. 12; M. 195 (D. L. 66)

Mr. SPEAKER then directed Mr. Redmond to withdraw, and he withdrew accordingly

Suspension of Irish Members

Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill [Bill 157] Bill considered in Committee [Progress 29th 271] June] [Twenty-second Night] June 30, 1837

The Chairman called the attention of the Committee to the evidence of the long continued and increasing obstruction to the business of the Committee, which, after twenty-three days' sittings, had culminated in the discussions upon the present clause (Clause 17); and proceeded to Name severally the following Members:—*Mr. Biggar, Mr. Callan, Dr. Commins, Mr. Dillon, Mr. Healy, Mr. Leamy, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Marum, Mr. Metge, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Redmond, Mr. Sexton, and Mr. Sullivan, for having abused the Rules of the House by persistent and wilful obstruction of the business of the Committee; and it was thereupon moved "That these Members be severally suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting" (Mr. Childers); The Committee divided; A. 126, N. 27; M. 99*

Mr. Speaker having resumed the Chair, Mr. Playfair reported to Mr. Speaker the said Resolution. Mr. Speaker thereupon forthwith put the Question to the House "That the said Members be severally suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting;" The House divided; A. 125, N. 29; M. 96; Mr. Speaker then directed the aforementioned Members to withdraw; and they withdrew accordingly

Mr. Playfair then reported to Mr. Speaker that Mr. O'Donnell, the Member for Dungarvan, sitting in his place, had insulted the Chairman, saying that the action taken by him was an infamy; after debate, it was Ordered, "That the conduct of Mr. O'Donnell be taken into consideration on Monday next"

After further long time spent in Committee, Mr. Byrne, Mr. William Corbet, Mr. Gray, Mr. Lalor, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Arthur O'Connor, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. O'Sullivan, and Mr. Sheil having been severally Named by the Chairman for having abused the Rules of the House by persistent and wilful obstruction of the business of the Committee, and a Resolution being agreed to thereon—Mr. Speaker having resumed the Chair and the

[cont.]

Parliament—Order—Rules of Debate—Suspension of Irish Members—cont.

Resolution having been reported, Mr. Speaker forthwith put the Question; The House divided; A. 128, N. 7; M. 121; Mr. Speaker thereupon directed the aforementioned Members to withdraw; and they withdrew accordingly

The Recent Suspension of Irish Members, Questions, Mr. Callan; Answers, Mr. Lyon 271] Playfair July 3, 1862; July 5, 1811

Mr. O'Donnell

Order read for the Consideration of Mr. O'Donnell's conduct on Saturday last, as reported by the Chairman of the Committee on the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill July 3, 1874; Moved, "That Mr. O'Donnell be suspended from the service of the House for the term of fourteen days" (Mr. Gladstone); whereupon Mr. O'Donnell was heard in his place

Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "this House is not prepared to take notice of the language imputed to Mr. O'Donnell, and passes to the next Order of the Day" (Mr. Joseph Cowen); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 199, N. 35; M. 164 (D. L. 231)

Main Question put; A. 181, N. 33; M. 148 (D. L. 232)

Resolved, That Mr. O'Donnell be suspended from the service of the House for the term of Fourteen days

Withdrawal of Irish Members, Observations, Mr. Justin McCarthy July 4, 1400

The Chairman of Committees, Questions, Mr. Stanley Leighton; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Speaker July 6, 1820; Questions, Sir H. Drummond Wolff, Mr. Gorst, Mr. T. P. O'Connor; Answers, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Gladstone, 1822; Questions, Mr. Callan; Answers, Mr. Lyon Playfair July 10, 1862

Moved, "That so much of the Resolution of this House as referred to the suspension of Mr. Marum from the service of the House on Saturday 1st July, be rescinded" (Sir John Hay) July 7, 1866; after debate, Question put; A. 29, N. 61; M. 32 (D. L. 243)

Suspension of Irish Members

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Aug 9, To leave out from "That," and add "the record of the suspension of John Dillon, Member for Tipperary, Dr. Commins, Member for Roscommon, Joseph G. Biggar, Member for Cavan, and Frank H. O'Donnell; Member for Dungarvan, be erased from the Minutes of Proceedings, on the ground that the suspended Members were not in the House during the proceedings for the obstruction of which they were so reported" 273] (Mr. Joseph Cowen) v. 1270; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after long debate, Debate adjourned (5.45)

Debate resumed Aug 10, 1400; Question put, and agreed to

[cont.]

Parliament—Order—Rules of Debate—Suspension of Irish Members—cont.

Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill—Committee, Aug. 15

Mr. Callan, Member for the County of Louth, having been Named by the Chairman for having disregarded the authority of the Chair

Motion made, and Question put, "That Mr. Callan be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting" (*Mr. Gladstone*); A. 59, N. 3; M. 55 Whereupon the Chairman left the Chair in order to report the said Resolution to the House

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Playfair reported to Mr. Speaker that Mr. Callan had been Named by him to the Committee as disregarding the authority of the Chair, and that the Committee had resolved that Mr. Callan be suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting

Mr. Speaker thereupon forthwith put the Question, "That Mr. Callan be suspended from the service of the House for the remainder of this day's sitting;" A. 60, N. 3; M. 57

Mr. Callan withdrew accordingly

Unparliamentary Language—Mr. O'Donnell, 272] July 24, 1861

Mr. O'Donnell, Member for Dungarvan, having in course of Debate stated "That the Chair had made a prediction of the words he was about to speak, and then decided upon them"

Mr. Speaker directed the Clerk to take down those words, and the same were taken down accordingly

Moved, "That those words be taken into Consideration To-morrow" (*Mr. Gladstone*)

And Mr. O'Donnell having explained the words to which exception had been taken, Motion withdrawn

After short debate, Question put, and agreed to, 1572

Parliament—Privilege—The Meath Election—Return of Michael Davitt

Question, Mr. R. Power; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Feb 23, 1873; Questions, Mr. Gregory, Mr. R. Power, Mr. Gorst, Mr. Healy; Answers, The Attorney General, Sir William Harcourt; Question, Mr. Callan [no answer] Feb 27, 1874

Record of Conviction and Judgment

Moved, "That there be laid before this House, 'a Copy of the Record of the Conviction and of the Judgment, in the case of the Queen against Michael Davitt and another, tried at the Central Criminal Court on the 11th of July 1870'" (*Mr. Attorney General*) Feb 27, 1874; after short debate, Question put; A. 64, N. 10; M. 54 (D. L. 30); Paper presented accordingly

Moved, "That the said Paper be taken into Consideration To-morrow, and be printed" (*Mr. Attorney General*)

Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," and insert "on Thursday" (*Mr. Healy*) v.; Question proposed, "That the word 'To-morrow' stand part of the Question;" after short

Parliament—Privilege—The Meath Election—Return of Michael Davitt—cont.

debate, Question put; A. 61, N. 10; M. 51 (D. L. 31)

Main Question put, and agreed to

Parliament—Privilege—Meath Election—Michael Davitt, declared incapable of being elected

Moved, "That Michael Davitt, returned as a Member for the County of Meath, having been adjudged guilty of felony, and sentenced to penal servitude for fifteen years, and being now imprisoned under such sentence, is incapable of being elected or returned as a Member of this House" (*Mr. Attorney General*) Feb 28, [1866] 1842

After debate, Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "a Select Committee be appointed to examine into the precedents in the Law of Parliament involved in the Return of Michael Davitt for the County of Meath, and report to the House on the steps that ought to be taken under the circumstances" (*Mr. Justin McCarthy*); Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after further short debate, Question put; A. 242, N. 29; M. 213 (D. L. 32)

Main Question put; A. 208, N. 20; M. 188 (D. L. 33)

Parliament—The New Rules of Procedure—Motions for Adjournment before Public Business—"Definite Matter of urgent public importance"

Parnell, Mr., M.P., &c. (Release from Kilmainham), Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. J. R. Yorke*) Nov 24, [275] 21; after debate, Question put, and negatived

The Irish Land Commission—Official Valuers, Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Gibson*) Nov 28, [275] 242

Whereupon a large number of Members—not less than 40—rising in their places the right hon. and learned Gentleman proceeded with his Motion

After debate, Question put, and negatived

Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Parnell*) Nov 30, [275] 407

Whereupon a number of Members—less than 40—rising in their places the hon. Member could not proceed with his Motion

PARLIAMENT—HOUSE OF LORDS

New Peers

Feb 7—William Montagu Marquess of Tweeddale in the Peerage of Scotland, created Baron Tweeddale of Yester in the county of Haddington in the Peerage of the United Kingdom

Donald James Baron Reay in the Peerage of Scotland, created Baron Reay of Durness in the county of Sutherland in the Peerage of the United Kingdom

Sir Henry James Tufton, Baronet, created Baron Hothfield of Hothfield in the county of Kent

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PARLIAMENT—LORDS—*New Peers*—cont.

Sir Dudley Coutts Marjoribanks, Baronet, created Baron Tweedmouth of Edington in the county of Berwick

Mar 9—William Ullick Tristram Earl of Howth in the Peerage of Ireland, created Baron Howth of Howth in the county of Dublin in the peerage of the United Kingdom

April 24—The Right Honourable Sir George William Wilshere Bramwell, knight, late a Lord Justice of Appeal, created Baron Bramwell of Hever in the county of Kent

June 27—The Right Honourable John David FitzGerald, created Baron FitzGerald of Kilmarnock, in the county of Dublin

July 13—Sir Harcourt Van den Bemp de Johnstone, created Baron Derwent, of Ilackness, in the North Riding of the county of York

Sat First

Feb 7—The Lord Douglas (Earl of Home), after the death of his father

April 20—The Lord Boston, after the death of his father

April 27—The Lord Hopetoun (*The Earl of Hopetoun*), after the death of his father

June 5—The Lord Barrogill (the Earl of Caithness) after the death of his father

June 19—The Lord Erskine, after the death of his father

June 20—The Lord Robartes, after the death of his father

July 4—The Earl of Wilton, after the death of his father

July 17—The Earl of Gainsborough, after the death of his father

July 20—The Duke of Grafton, after the death of his brother

Representative Peer for Ireland (Writs and Returns)

Feb 7—The Earl of Kilmorey, v. Viscount Bangor, deceased

Representative Peer for Scotland

Feb 7—The Lord Polwarth, v. Earl of Airlie, deceased

PARLIAMENT—HOUSE OF COMMONS

New Writs Issued

During Recess—For Berwick-upon-Tweed, v. Sir Dudley Coutts Marjoribanks, baronet, now Baron Tweedmouth

For Tiverton Borough, v. Right honble. William Nathaniel Massey, deceased

For Stafford Borough, v. Alexander Macdonald, esquire, deceased

For Camarthen Borough, v. Benjamin Thomas Williams, esquire, Judge of the County Court of Glamorganshire and Brecknockshire

[cont.]

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*New Writs Issued*—cont.

For York County (North Riding), v. Honble. Reginald William Duncombe, commonly called Viscount Helmsley, deceased

For Preston Borough, v. Sir John Holker, one of the Lord Justices of Her Majesty's Court of Appeal

For Londonderry County, v. Right honble. Hugh Law, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland

Feb 7—For Westminster City, v. Sir Charles Russell, baronet, Manor of Northstead

Feb 9—For Taunton, v. Sir William Palliser, deceased

Feb 13—For the County of Meath, v. Alexander Martin Sullivan, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

Feb 22—For the Borough of Northampton, v. Charles Bradlaugh, esquire, expelled this House

Feb 27—For Malmesbury, v. Walter Powell, esquire, deceased

Mar 14—For Carnarvon District, v. William Bulkeley Hughes, esquire, deceased

Mar 22—For East Cornwall, v. the Hon. Thomas Charles Agar-Robartes, called up to the House of Peers

April 4—For the County of Meath, v. Michael Davitt, who, having been adjudged guilty of felony and sentenced to penal servitude for fifteen years, and being now imprisoned under such sentence, is incapable of being elected or returned as a Member of this House

April 19—For Somerset County (Western Division), v. Vaughan Hanning Vaughan Lee, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

May 4—For the Northern Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire, v. Lord Frederick Charles Cavendish, Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland

May 9—For Hawick District of Burghs, v. George Otto Trevelyan, esquire, Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland

June 12—For the County of Banff, v. Robert William Duff, esquire, Commissioner of the Treasury

Aug 11—For Haddington Burghs, v. Sir David Wedderburn, baronet, Manor of Northstead

Aug 15—For Halifax Borough, v. John Dyson Hutchinson, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

Oct 27—For Edinburgh City, v. James Cowan, esquire, Chiltern Hundreds

Nov 2—For the Borough of Ennis, v. James Lysaght Finigan, esquire, Manor of Northstead

Nov 13—For the City of New Sarum, v. William Henry Grenfell, esquire, one of the Grooms in Waiting on Her Majesty

Nov 16—For the University of Cambridge, v. Right hon. Spencer Horatio Walpole, Manor of Northstead

cont.

PARLIAMENT—COMMONS—*New Writs Issued*—
cont.

- For* Preston, *v.* Right Hon. Henry Cecil Raikes, Chiltern Hundreds
Nor 23—For the Borough of Wigan, *v.* Francis Sharp Powell, esquire, whose Election has been declared to be void
Dec 1—For Liverpool City, *v.* the Right Hon. Dudley Francis Stewart Ryder, commonly called Viscount Sandon, now Earl of Harrowby

New Members Sworn

- Feb 7—*Thomas Salt, esquire, *Stafford*
 John Jones Jenkins, esquire, *Carmarthen*
 Right honble. James Lowther, *Lincoln County* (Northern Division)
 James Redfoord Bulwer, esquire, *Cambridge County*
 Right honble. Henry Cecil Raikes, *Preston*
 Hubert Edward Henry Jerningham, esquire, *Berwick-upon-Tweed*
 Thomas Alexander Dickson, esquire, *Tyrone County*
 Honble. Guy Cuthbert Dawnay, *York County* (North Riding)
 Alexander Asher, esquire, *Elgin District of Burghs*
*Feb 8—*Andrew Marshal Porter, esquire, *Londonderry County*
 Viscount Ebrington, *Tiverton*
*Feb 10—*Lord Algernon Percy, *Westminster City*
*Feb 20—*Samuel Charles Allsopp, esquire, *Taunton*
*Feb 21—*Sir George Elliot, baronet, *Durham County* (Northern Division)
*Mar 9—*Charles William Miles, esquire, *Malmesbury*
*Mar 30—*Thomas Love Duncombe Jones-Parry, esquire, *Borough of Carnarvon*
*April 3—*Charles Thomas Dyke Acland, esquire, *County of Cornwall* (Eastern Division)
*April 18—*Edward Sheil, esquire, *Meath County*
*April 27—*Edward James Stanley, esquire, *Somerset County* (Western Division)
*May 18—*Right hon. George Otto Trevelyan, *Hawick District of Burghs*
*May 22—*Isaac Holden, esquire, *Northern Division of the West Riding of Yorkshire*
*June 19—*Robert William Duff, esquire, *County of Banff*
*Oct 24—*Thomas Shaw, esquire, *Halifax*
 Alexander Craig Sellar, esquire, *Haddington District of Burghs*
*Nov 6—*Samuel Danks Waddy, esquire, *City of Edinburgh*
*Nov 17—*Matthew Joseph Kenny, esquire, *Ennis Borough*
*Nov 21—*Coleridge John Kennard, esquire, *City of New Sarum*
*Nov 27—*William Edward Murray Tomlinson, esquire, for the Borough of Preston
*Nov 30—*Right Hon. Henry Cecil Raikes, for the University of Cambridge

Parliamentary Declaration Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl of Redesdale*)

- l.* Presented; read 1^a, after short debate *Mar 7, 267*] 317 (No. 32)
 Petition presented, The Earl of Redesdale
Mar 14, 869
 Observations, The Earl of Redesdale *Mar 17, 1126*
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a"
Mar 23, 1624
 Previous Question moved (*The Earl of Shaftesbury*); after debate, Previous Question put, Whether the said Question shall be now put? resolved in the negative

Parliamentary Elections Bill

(*Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Cohen*)

- c.* Ordered; read 1^o *Feb 21* [Bill 79]
 2R. [Dropped]

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill

Question, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answer, The Attorney General *Mar 3, 267*] 30; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, The Attorney General *Mar 17, 1143*; Questions, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Thorold Rogers; Answers, The Attorney General *Mar 20, 1279*

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices) Bill

(*Mr. Attorney General, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Charles W. Dilke, Mr. Solicitor General*)

- c.* Ordered *Feb 9*
 Read 1^o *Feb 10* [Bill 21]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
April 24, 268] 1327
 Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "considering no corruption has been proved to exist in the larger town constituencies, or in any county constituency, it is inexpedient to adopt such uniform restrictions and punishments as will render the fair conduct of an election in a great constituency perilous and penal" (*Mr. Robert Fowler*) *v.*; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. A. J. Balfour*); after further debate, Question put, and agreed to; Debate adjourned
 Debate resumed *April 25, 1421*; after debate, Debate adjourned
 Debate resumed *April 27, 1581*; after long debate, Question put, and agreed to
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
 Committee—*a.p.*, after short debate *May 9, 269*] 375
 Committee—*a.p.* *May 15, 680*
 Order for Committee discharged; Bill withdrawn, after debate *July 28, 273*] 83

Parliamentary Elections Expenses Bill

(*Mr. Ashton Dilke, Mr. Barran, Mr. Burt*)

- c.* Motion for Leave (*Mr. Ashton Dilke*) *Feb 9, 266*] 331; after short debate, Question put; A. 107, N. 36; M. 71 (D. L. 5); Leave given; Bill ordered

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Parliamentary Elections Expenses Bill—cont.

Read 1st Feb 10

[Bill 34]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"

April 19, [268] 944; after debate, Question put; A. 87, N. 85; M. 2 (D. L. 65)

Parliamentary Oaths Act (1866) Amendment Bill [H.L.]

(*The Duke of Argyll*)

1. Presented; read 1st June 5 (No. 111)

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"

July 4, [271] 1354

Amendt. to leave out from ("That," and insert ("nothing has arisen in the proceedings of this House which makes it expedient at this time to propose a change in the existing Parliamentary Oath") (*The Earl of Carnarvon*); after short debate, on Question, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the motion?" Cont. 62, Not-Cont. 138; M. 76; resolved in the negative Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont., 1379

PARNELL, Mr. C. S., *Cork City*

Army—Private Purchases of Arms, [272] 1540

Arrears of Rent (Ireland), Motion for Leave,

[269] 786, 791, 795; Comm. [271] 1726;

cl. 1, 1982; [272] 91; Amendt. 127, 143,

152, 248, 333, 354, 356, 375, 376, 379, 391,

396, 400, 401, 402, 481, 484; cl. 2, 493;

Amendt. 520, 532; cl. 5, 779, 783, 785;

cl. 11, 824, 828; cl. 12, 927; add. cl. 941,

944, 960, 961, 963, 981, 986, 989, 990;

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1129; add. cl. Motion for reporting Progress, 1166; Lords Amendts. Consid. [273]

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Majesty's Naval and Military Forces, Res.

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[269] 323;—Withdrawal of Police Pat-

rols, [270] 1604

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tion of Huts for Evicted Families on the

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673;—Resignation of the Chief Secretary

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[271] 1272, 1273

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the Question), 721; Second Rule (Motions

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1447, 1466; Fourth Rule (Divisions), 1584;

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Motion for a Select Committee, [274] 37;

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269] Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Motion for

Leave, 482; 2R. 1123; Comm. Motion for

Adjournment, 1589, 1618, 1624, 1754; cl. 1,

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1842, 1849, 1861, 1890, 1904, 1905, 1908;

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ing Progress, 2076

270] 88, 92, 101, 104, 106, 108; Amendt.

110, 117, 118, 123, 126, 127, 186, 188, 189;

cl. 2, 195, 196; cl. 4, 305, 308, 309, 310,

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270] 311, 312, 316, 334; Motion for reporting Progress, 452, 497, 500, 503, 507, 508, 510, 516, 519, 522; Amendt. *ib.*, 523, 527, 588, 590; Motion for Adjournment, 610, 732, 739, 865, 868, 870, 873; Amendt. 908; *cl.* 5, 943, 946, 949, 1007, 1008, 1010, 1014, 1015, 1016, 1019, 1025, 1026, 1028, 1051, 1056, 1059, 1060; Amendt. 1083; *cl.* 6, Amendt. 1088, 1089, 1092, 1093, 1097, 1101, 1102, 1105, 1110; *cl.* 7, 1192, 1194, 1195; Amendt. 1358, 1360, 1864, 1371, 1373, 1378, 1383; Motion for Adjournment, 1387, 1433; Amendt. 1434, 1438, 1440, 1441; *cl.* 8, 1511, 1524; Amendt. 1525, 1529, 1535; *cl.* 9, Amendt. 1665, 1669, 1673, 1674; *cl.* 10, 1703; Amendt. 1706, 1710, 1712, 1713; *cl.* 11, 1823, 1824, 1826, 1846, 1849, 1851, 1854, 1861, 1865, 1871, 1881, 1892; Amendt. 1897, 1906, 1913, 1930, 1931
271] *cl.* 12, Motion for reporting Progress, 156, 158, 160, 212, 214, 228, 231, 233; Amendt. 238, 239, 244, 247, 249, 254, 259, 260, 261, 262, 266; *cl.* 13, 326, 327, 333, 338, 344, 347, 349; *cl.* 14, 578, 594; *cl.* 15, 617, 621, 729, 730, 731, 752; *cl.* 16, 845, 881, 898; *cl.* 17, 948, 949, 954, 957, 958, 1045, 1050, 1061; Amendt. 1071, 1072, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, 1083, 1084, 1100, 1103, 1107, 1109; *add. cl.* 1328, 1333, 1342, 1345, 1355
Supply—County Court Officers, &c. in Ireland, [273] 1427, 1441
Irish Land Commission, [273] 1210
Prisons, Ireland, [273] 1462

Parnell, Mr., M.P., &c. (*Release from Kilmainham*)

Notice of Motion, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Questions, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. J. Lowther, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. Justin M'Carthy, Captain Aylmer, Mr. Onslow, Mr. Bourke, Colonel Stanley, Mr. R. H. Paget, Mr. Salt;
274] Answers, Mr. Gladstone Nov 14, 1411; Notice, Observations, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Reply, Mr. Gladstone Nov 16, 1557; Questions, Mr. J. R. Yorke, Mr. Labouchere, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. J. Lowther, Lord John Manners; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Nov 17, 1637; Question, Mr. J. R. Yorke; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Nov 20, 1727; Questions, Mr. J. R. Yorke, Mr. J. Lowther; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Nov 21, 1796; Nov 23, 1990

Parochial Charities (London) Bill

(Mr. Bryce, Mr. Pell, Sir Henry Peek, Mr. Walter James, Mr. Joseph Cowen, Mr. Horace Davey)

c. Ordered * Feb 9
Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 36]
Read 2^o, and committed to a Select Committee, after short debate Feb 20, [266] 1203
Ordered, That the Select Committee on the London Parochial Charities and Parochial Charities (London) Bills do consist of Eighteen Members, Twelve to be nominated by the House, and Six to be nominated by the Committee of Selection Mar 6; Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Baring, Mr. Bryce, Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Horace Davey,

[*cont.*

Parochial Charities (London) Bill—*cont.*

Mr. Firth, Mr. Gorst, Mr. Walter James, Mr. William Lawrence, Mr. Macfarlane, Lord Percy, Sir Matthew White Ridley, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, and Six Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection
Report of Select Comm. * May 23 [No. 205]
Bill, as amended by the Select Comm. * May 23 [Bill 180]
Re-committed [Dropped]

Parochial Charities (London) Bill and London Parochial Charities Bill

c. Ordered, That the Report of the Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty to inquire into the Parochial Charities of the City of London, which was presented to this House in the year 1880, be referred to the Select Committee on the Parochial Charities (London) Bill and the London Parochial Charities Bill Mar 13

PARRY, Mr. T. L. Jones, *Carnarvon, &c.*
Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Comm. *cl.* 11, [270] 1842; *add. cl.* [271] 1495

Partnerships Bill (Mr. Monk, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Barran, Mr. Lewis Fry)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed to, and reported; Bill ordered * Feb 9
Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 27]
2R., after short debate, Debate adjourned Feb 22, [266] 1355
Question, Mr. Monk; Answer, Mr. Whitley Mar 6, [267] 185
Adjourned Debate on Question [22nd February], "That the Bill be now read 2^o" resumed Mar 24, 1958; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o Committee *; Report; re-committed to a Select Committee Mar 27 [Bill 114]
And, on April 3, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Baxter, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Eeroyd, Mr. Lewis Fry, Mr. Knowles, Mr. Compton Lawrance, Mr. Molloy, Mr. Monk, Mr. Norwood, Lord Algernon Percy, Mr. Rylands, Mr. Salt, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Eustace Smith, and Mr. Whitley
Report of Select Comm. * May 23 [No. 204]
Order for Committee (*on re-comm.*) read: Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" June 5, [270] 210; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Horace Davey); after short debate, Motion withdrawn
Original Question put, and agreed to; Committee—*a.p.* [Bill 179]
Committee (*on re-comm.*)—*a.p.* June 22, [271] 162
Committee (*on re-comm.*) June 29, 896 [House counted out]
Committee (*on re-comm.*)—*a.p.* July 10, 2058
Committee (*on re-comm.*)—*a.p.* July 21, [272] 1324
Committee (Progress) [Dropped]

Passenger Acts—Emigrant Ships

Amendt. on Committee of Supply Aug 4, To leave out from "That," and add "in the opinion of this House, the Passenger Acts

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Passenger Acts—Emigrant Ships—cont

require revision and reform" (*Mr. Moore*)
v., [273] 758; Question proposed, "That the
words, &c.;" after short debate, Question
put, and agreed to
[See title *Merchant Shipping Acts*]

Passenger Acts—Royal Netherlands Steam- ship Company—Ill-Treatment of Emi- grants

Question, *Mr. Moore*; Answer, *Mr. Chamber-
lain Aug 4*, [273] 752

Passenger Vessels Licences (Scotland) Bill (The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed
to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1° *
July 10 [Bill 234]
Read 2° * Aug 4
Committee *; Report; read 3° Aug 11
l. Read 1° * (*Lord Rosebery*) Aug 14 (No. 252)
Read 2°; Committee negative Aug 15, [273]
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Read 3° * Aug 16
Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 66]

Passenger Vessels Licensing (Scotland) Bill (Dr. Cameron, Mr. Dalrymple, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Orr Ewing, Mr. Grant)

c. Considered in Committee; Resolution agreed
to, and reported; Bill ordered; read 1° *
Feb 20 [Bill 76]
2R. [Dropped]

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Observations, *Mr. Warton*, *Dr. Farquharson*;
Reply, *Mr. Hibbert May 12*, [269] 594

Patent Museum, The (South Kensington) Observations, Mr. Ilind Palmer; Reply, Mr. Chamberlain; short debate thereon Aug 10, [273] 1401

Patents for Inventions Bill

(*Mr. Anderson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Broadhurst,
Mr. Jackson, Mr. Hinde Palmer*)

c. Ordered; read 1° * Feb 15 [Bill 72]
Bill withdrawn * July 25

Patents for Inventions (No. 2) Bill

(*Sir John Lubbock, Mr. William Henry Smith,
Mr. Compton Lawrance*)

c. Ordered; read 1° * Mar 15 [Bill 104]
Read 2° April 28, [268] 1785
Committee [Dropped]

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272] 1435; cl. 13, 1444; cl. 15, Amendt. 1455,
1460; cl. 16, 1462
273] Consid. cl. 25, 532
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[274] 659, 1191;—State Papers, [275] 391
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Payment of Wages in Public-houses Pro- hibition Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl Stanhope*)

l. Presented; read 1° * Mar 16 (No. 41)
Read 2°, after short debate May 2, [268] 1925
Committee *; Report May 16
Read 3° * May 19
c. Read 1° * (*Mr. Morley*) May 25 [Bill 185]
Moved, "That the Bill be read 2° upon Satur-
day next" (*Mr. Broadhurst*) July 20, [272]
1171
Amendt. to leave out "Saturday," and insert
"Monday" (*Mr. Warton*) v.; Question pro-
posed, "That 'Saturday,' &c.;" after short
debate, Question put; A. 33, N. 4; M. 29
(D. L. 286)
Main Question put, and agreed to
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2°"
(*Mr. Broadhurst*) Aug 17, [273] 2049
Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon
this day three months" (*Mr. Warton*)
[The Amendt., not being seconded, could not be
put]
Original Question put, and agreed to; Bill
read 2°
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268] April 3*, 532; Question, *Mr. Healy*; An-
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271] 23; *June 26*, 394; Question, *Mr. Redmond*;
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274] Healy; [No reply] Oct 31, 1882; Question, Mr. Biggar; Answer, Mr. Trevelyan Nov 13, 1288

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 . *cl.* 31, 1472
 273] *Consid. cl.* 6, 511, 514; *cl.* 13, Amendt. 519,
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c. Ordered; read 1st July 21 [Bill 252]
 . Read 2nd Aug 5
 . Committee *; Report; read 3rd Aug 7
 . *l.* Read 1st (Lord Thurlow) Aug 8 (No. 230)
 . Read 2nd Aug 10
 . Committee *; Report Aug 11
 . Read 3rd Aug 14
 . Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 44]

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(The Viscount Lifford)

l. Presented; read 1st May 11 (No. 89)
 Read 2nd May 15
 Committee May 19
 Report June 1
 Read 3rd June 2
 c. Read 1st June 14 [Bill 203]
 Read 2nd June 19, [270] 1717
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 Read 3rd July 3
 l. Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 24]

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c. Ordered; read 1st April 27 [Bill 142]
 Read 2nd May 8
 Report June 8
 Considered June 12
 Read 3rd June 13
 l. Read 1st (Lord Sudeley) June 15 (No. 148)
 Read 2nd June 20
 Committee; Report July 24
 Read 3rd July 25
 Royal Assent Aug 10 [45 & 45 Vict. c. clxviii]

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c. Ordered; read 1st May 5 [Bill 150]
 Read 2nd May 16
 Report June 5
 Considered June 6
 Read 3rd June 7
 l. Read 1st (Lord Sudeley) June 8 (No. 123)
 Read 2nd June 16
 Committee; Report June 19
 Read 3rd June 22 (No. 123)
 Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lvi]

Pilotage Provisional Order (Tees) Bill formerly—

Tees Pilotage Order Confirmation Bill (Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. Chamberlain)

c. Ordered; read 1st Feb 9 [Bill 1]
 Read 2nd Feb 20
 Report Mar 7
 Read 3rd Mar 8
 l. Read 1st (Lord Ramsay) Mar 9 (No. 33)
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- c. Ordered : read 1^o • Mar 6 [Bill 97]
- Read 2^o • Mar 16
- 268] Committee deferred Mar 27, 135
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- Committee ; Report April 27, 1635
- Considered • May 1
- Read 3^o • May 2
- l. Read 1^o • (*Lord Aberdare*) May 4 (No. 77)
- Read 2^o May 19, [269] 1085
- Committee • June 13 (No. 141)
- Report • June 16
- Read 3^o • June 19
- c. Lords Amendts. June 27 [Bill 217]
- l. Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 21]

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- 273] Consid. cl. 15, 528 ; 3R. 540 ; Lords Amendts.
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(*The Lord Bishop of Exeter*)

i. Presented; read 1st May 1 (No. 74)

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Read 3^d June 19 (No. 139)

c. Read 1st July 10 [Bill 230]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^d"

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bate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Dillwyn*);

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(Mr. Hibbert, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, The Lord Advocate)

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(Mr. Dodson, Mr. Hibbert)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * July 21 [Bill 251]
Read 2^o * July 31
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l. Read 1^a * (Lord Carrington) Aug 3 (No. 221)
Read 2^a * Aug 8
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Read 3^a * Aug 14
Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 58]

Poor Law Guardians (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Leahy, Mr. Gray, Mr. O'Sullivan)

c. Ordered * Feb 8
Read 1^o * Feb 9 [Bill 7]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o."
April 19, [268] 924
Amendt. to leave out "now" and add "upon this day six months" (Mr. Tottenham); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 93, N. 31; M. 64 (D. L. 64)
Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
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As amended, to be considered [Dropped]

Poor Law (Settlement) Bill

(Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Peel, Sir Hervey Bruce, Mr. Joseph Cowen)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * May 18 [Bill 170]
2R. [Dropped]

Poor Rates Bill

(Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Whitley, Mr. Rathbone, Colonel Makins, Mr. Coddington)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * May 18 [Bill 171]
Read 2^o * May 22
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Read 2^a * June 16, [270] 1398
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Read 3^a * June 27
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 20]

Poor Removal (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Daly, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Richard Power)

c. Ordered * Feb 8
Read 1^o * Feb 9 [Bill 11]
2R. [Dropped]

Poor Removal (Ireland) (No. 2) Bill

(Sir Hervey Bruce, Mr. Corry, Mr. Lewis)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * Feb 27 [Bill 91]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o."
May 17, [269] 897
Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day six months" (Mr. Cochran-Patrick); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 91, N. 172; M. 81 (D. L. 86)
Words added; main Question, as amended, put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

PORTER, Mr. A. M. (Solicitor General for Ireland), Londonderry Co.

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270] 132; cl. 4, 755; cl. 7, 1324, 1329, 1353, 1370

271] cl. 12, 251; cl. 13, 327, 348; cl. 14, 556, 561, 577, 579, 587; cl. 15, 633, 740; cl. 16, 781, 784, 819, 821, 822, 823, 828, 829; cl. 17, 939, 959; cl. 18, 1159, 1162, 1173; cl. 20, 1187

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(Mr. Fawcett, Lord Frederick Cavendish)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 16 [Bill 74]

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Read 3^o Feb 27, 1803

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Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill

(*Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Attorney General, Mr. Solicitor General, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland*)

- c. Moved, "That leave be given to bring in a Bill for the Prevention of Crime in Ireland" (*Secretary Sir William Harcourt*) May 11, 269] 462 ; after long debate, Question put ; A. 327, N. 22 ; M. 305 (D. L. 77) ; Bill ordered ; read 1^o * [Bill 157]
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" May 18, 961 ; after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Sexton*) ; Motion agreed to ; Debate adjourned
- Debate resumed May 19, 1096 ; after long debate, Question put ; A. 383, N. 45 ; M. 338 Div. List, A. and N., 1145
- Bill read 2^o
- Order for Committee read ; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" May 23, 1448
- Amendt. to leave out from "That," and add "while this House is desirous of aiding Her Majesty's Government in any measures which they can show to be necessary to adopt for preventing, detecting, and punishing crime, it disapproves of restrictions being imposed on the free expression of public opinion in Ireland" (*Mr. Joseph Cowen*) v. ; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.," after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Dillon*) ; Motion agreed to ; Debate adjourned
- Debate resumed [Second Night] May 24, 1534 ; after long debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Parnell*) ; Question put, and agreed to ; Debate adjourned
- Debate resumed [Third Night] May 25, 1617 ; after long debate, Question put ; A. 344, N. 47 ; M. 297 (D. L. 101)
- Main Question, "That Mr. Speaker, &c.," put, and agreed to ; Committee—R.P.
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Committee [Twenty-Second Night] June 30, 937

The Chairman called the attention of the Committee to the evidence of the long continued and increasing obstruction to the business of the Committee, which, after twenty-three days' sittings, had culminated in the discussions upon the present clause (Clause 17); and proceeded to Name severally the following Members:—Mr. Biggar, Mr. Callan, Dr. Commins, Mr. Dillon, Mr. Healy, Mr. Leamy, Mr. Justin M'Carthy, Mr. Marum, Mr. Metge, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Richard Power, Mr. Redmond, Mr. Sexton, and Mr. Sullivan, for having abused the Rules of the House by persistent and wilful obstruction of the business of the Committee; and it was thereupon moved "That these Members be severally suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting" (*Mr. Childers*): The Committee divided; A. 126, N. 27; M. 99

Mr. Speaker having resumed the Chair, Mr. Playfair reported to Mr. Speaker the said Resolution. Mr. Speaker thereupon forthwith put the Question to the House "That the said Members be severally suspended from the service of the House during the remainder of this day's sitting;" The House divided; A. 125, N. 29; M. 96; Mr. Speaker then directed the aforementioned Members to withdraw; and they withdrew accordingly

Mr. Playfair then reported to Mr. Speaker that Mr. O'Donnell, the Member for Dungarvan, sitting in his place, had insulted the Chairman, saying that the action taken by him was an infamy; after debate, it was Ordered, "That the conduct of Mr. O'Donnell be taken into consideration on Monday next"

After further long time spent in Committee, Mr. Byrne, Mr. William Corbet, Mr. Gray, Mr. Lalor, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Arthur O'Connor, Mr. O'Kelly, Mr. O'Sullivan, and Mr. Sheil having been severally Named by the Chairman for having abused the Rules of the House by persistent and wilful obstruction of the business of the Committee, and a Resolution being agreed to thereon—Mr. Speaker having resumed the Chair and the Resolution having been reported, Mr. Speaker forthwith put the Question; The House divided; A. 128, N. 7; M. 121; Mr. Speaker thereupon directed the aforementioned Members to withdraw; and they withdrew accordingly

[cont.]

Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill—cont.

After further long time spent in Committee, Committee—R.P.

The House adjourned at Eight o'clock of the evening of Saturday

Committee—R.P. [Twenty-Third Night] July 3, 271] 1325

Committee Report [Twenty-Fourth Night] July 4, 1400

Considered July 7, 1790; after long debate, further Proceeding adjourned [Bill 226]

Further Proceeding resumed, 1833; after debate, Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a,"

1849; after further debate, Question put, and agreed to; Bill passed

The Division on Friday, Questions, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mr. Sexton; Answers, Mr. Gladstone, Sir William Harcourt July 10, 1961

l. Read 1^a * (*Lord Carlisle*) July 7 (No. 186)

Read 2^a, after debate July 10, 1881

Committee; Report; read 3^a; Bill passed 272] July 11, 4

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Message from the Queen Mar 21, [267] 1417

Her Majesty's Most Gracious Message considered Mar 23, 1622

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, to thank Her Majesty for the most gracious communication which it has pleased Her Majesty to make to this House respecting the approaching marriage

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Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany—Marriage of His Royal Highness—cont.

between His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, and Her Serene Highness Princess Helen of Waldeck and Pyrmont, and to assure Her Majesty that this House, always feeling the most lively interest in any event which will contribute to the happiness of the Royal Family, will concur in those measures which may be proposed for the consideration of this House to make such a provision for His Royal Highness as may be suitable to the dignity of the Crown; "Address ordered nemine dissentiente to be presented to Her Majesty

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Message from Her Majesty; Question, Mr. Lewis; Answer, Mr. Spenser; short debate thereon *Mar 21*, [267] 1442

Message from Her Majesty considered in Committee *Mar 23*, 1871

- (1.) Moved, "That the annual sum of ten thousand pounds be granted to Her Majesty, out of the Consolidated Fund of Great Britain and Ireland, towards providing for the establishment of His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, and of Her Serene Highness Princess Helen of Waldeck and Pyrmont, the said annuity to be settled on His Royal Highness for his life, in such manner as Her Majesty may think proper, and to commence from the date of the Marriage of His Royal Highness with Her Serene Highness Princess Helen, and to be in addition to the annuity now enjoyed by His Royal Highness under the Act of the thirty-eighth year of Her present Majesty" (*Mr. Gladstone*); after debate, Question put; A. 387, N. 42; M. 345 (D. L. 58)
- (2.) Moved, "That Her Majesty be enabled to secure to Her Serene Highness Princess Helen of Waldeck and Pyrmont, for the support of her dignity, in case she shall survive His Royal Highness Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, an annual sum not exceeding six thousand pounds during her life" (*Mr. Gladstone*), 1703; after short debate, Question put, and agreed to

The Queen's Answer to the Address reported *April 24*, [268] 1204
The Treaty P.P. [3190]

"Princess Alice" Calamity—The Inquest—Report

Question, Mr. Montagu Scott; Answer, Mr. Hibbert *Aug 10*, [273] 1832

Prison Charities Bill

(Secretary Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Hibbert)

c. Ordered; read 1^o *Aug 5* [Bill 270]
Read 2^o *Aug 7*

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- i. Read 1^o *•* (*Lord Rosebery*) *Aug 10* (No. 242)
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Protection of Person and Property (Ireland) Act, 1881—Release of Mr. Parnell and others confined under the Act

Moved, "For correspondence respecting the release of certain persons imprisoned under the Act" (*The Marquess of Waterford*) June 5, [270] 19; after debate, Motion withdrawn

Protection of Person and Property (Ireland) Act Repeal Bill

- 266] c. Motion for Leave (*Mr. Sexton*) Feb 8, 217;
Motion postponed
Question, *Mr. Sexton*; Answer, *Mr. W. E. Forster* Feb 9, 280
Motion for Leave (*Mr. Sexton*) Feb 9, 342;
after debate, Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (*Mr. Woodall*); after further debate, Motion withdrawn
Original Question again proposed, 362;
Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (*Mr. Inderwick*); after short debate
[House counted out]

Protection of Young Girls, Law Relating to the—Re-Appointment of Select Committee

Moved that the Select Committee appointed on the 30th of May 1881, to inquire into the state of the law relative to the protection of young girls from artifices to induce them to lead a corrupt life, and into the means of amending the same, be re-appointed (*The Earl of Dalhousie*) Feb 28, [266] 1827;
Motion agreed to

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Protection of Young Girls, Law Relating to the—Re-appointment of Select Committee—cont.

And, on May 16, the Lords following were named of the Committee:—*M. Salisbury*, *E. Shaftesbury*, *E. Mount Edgcumbe*, *E. Belmore*, *E. Cairns*, *L. Bp. London*, *L. Braye*, *L. Leigh*, *L. Ramsay*, *L. Tollemache*, *L. Norton*, and *L. Mount-Temple*
Report P.P. l. 188—c. 344

Provincial Art Galleries and Museums

Amendt. on Committee of Supply April 3, To leave out from "That," and add "in the opinion of this House, grants in aid of Art and Industrial Museums should not be confined to London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, but that a special grant should be made to the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, to enable them to supply Provincial Art Galleries and Museums with original examples and reproductions of Industrial Art adapted to their special local acquirements, and also to maintain and to still further develop the circulation system now administered by the Department; that gifts or loans of such articles and works as may be available from the National Art Collections, and from the British Museum, should be made to Provincial Art Galleries and Museums; and that such aid be confined to those towns or localities which are rated under the Free Libraries and Museums Act, and that the amount of such aid be proportioned to the sum raised and spent in each locality; and that, in order to give due effect to these proposals, it is desirable to place the whole of the National Art and other Collections, including the National Gallery and British Museum, under the direct control and administration of a Department of the Government" (*Mr. Jesse Collings*) v., [268] 576; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and agreed to

Public Departments

Distribution of Parliamentary Papers to the Press—Undue Preference, Question, *Mr. Anderson*; Answer, *Sir Charles W. Dilke* July 13, [272] 272; Question, *Mr. Buxton*; Answer, *Mr. Courtney* July 17, 698

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Public Officers, Publications by—Cobden Club Papers, The—"Free Trade v. Fair Trade; by T. H. Farrer"—Questions, *Earl Percy*; Answers, *Mr. Gladstone* Feb 13, [266] 499

Public Offices—Civil Servants of the Crown in Connection with Financial Undertakings—Questions, *Sir George Campbell*, *Mr. J. G. Hubbard*, *Mr. Arthur Arnold*; Answers, *Mr. Gladstone* Nov 9, [274] 1121
[See title *Civil Servants of the Crown*]

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Sheffield Small-pox Hospital, Question, Mr. W. Lowther; Answer, Mr. Dodson May 1, [268] 1810

Temporary Abodes, Question, Mr. Burt; Answer, Mr. Dodson Nov 21, [274] 1790

Unqualified Medical Practitioners, Question, Mr. H. Samuelson; Answer, Sir William Harcourt June 12, [270] 822

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[See title *Metropolis*]

Public Health (Fruit-Pickers' Lodgings) Bill [H.L.] (The Earl Stanhope)

l. Presented; read 1^o June 12 (No. 127)

Read 2^a June 19

Committee^{*}; Report June 20

Read 3^a June 22

c. Read 1^o (Mr. J. G. Talbot) June 23

Read 2^a June 26 [Bill 214]

Committee^{*}; Report June 27

Read 3^a July 3

Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 23]

Public Health (Scotland) Act Amendment Bill

(Dr. Cameron, Mr. James Cowan, Mr. Mackintosh)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 29 [Bill 115]

Read 2^a May 1

Committee^{*}; Report May 4

Read 3^a May 9

l. Read 1^o (Earl of Fife) May 11 (No. 84)

Read 2^a May 19

Committee^{*}; Report May 22

Read 3^a June 1

Royal Assent June 19 [45 Vict. c. 11]

Public Offices Site

The Site and Plans, Question, Lord Lamington; Answer, Lord Sudeley; Observations, The Earl of Redesdale; Question, Earl Stanhope; Answer, Lord Sudeley Mar 24, [267] 1794

The Admiralty, &c.—The Mall, Question, Sir Harry Verney; Answer, Mr. Shaw Lefevre July 6, [271] 1605 Report (P.P. 253)

Public Offices Site [Annuities and Expenses]

c. Resolution considered in Committee, and agreed to July 3, [271] 1352
Resolution reported July 4

Public Offices Site Bill

(Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Lord Frederick Cavendish)

c. Motion for Leave (Mr. Shaw Lefevre) Mar 23, [267] 1783; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o [Bill 111]

Read 2^a, and committed to a Select Committee May 15, [269] 802

And, on June 1, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Shaw Lefevre (Chairman), Mr. Arthur Arnold, Mr. Brand, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Macfarlane, Sir Arthur Otway, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson:—Mr. Gerard Noel, Mr. Rylands, Sir Richard Wallace, Mr. Walter, added by the Committee of Selection Report of Select Comm. June 28 [No. 253]

Committee^{*} (on re-comm.); Report June 29 Order for 3R. read, and discharged July 6, [271] 1733; Bill re-committed; Committee; Report; Considered; read 3^o [Bill 221]

l. Read 1^o (Lord Sudeley) July 7 (No. 184)

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^a" July 14, [272] 429

Amendt. to leave out ("now") and add ("this day six months") (The Lord Stratheden and Campbell); after debate, on Question, that ("now") &c. resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 2^a

Report July 17

Moved, "That the House do now resolve itself into a Committee" July 18, 836

Amendt. to leave out from ("That,") and insert ("the Bill be referred to a Select Committee") (The Lord Stratheden and Campbell); after debate, on Question, That the words, &c. resolved in the affirmative; Committee; Report

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^a" (The Earl of Kimberley) July 21, 1212

Amendt. to leave out ("now") and add ("this day three months") (The Lord Stratheden and Campbell); on Question, That ("now") &c. resolved in the affirmative; Bill read 3^a Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 32]

Public Offices Site Bill Select Committee

Ordered, That the Report and Minutes of Evidence of the Select Committee on Public Offices and Buildings (Metropolis) 1877, be referred to the Select Committee on the Public Offices Site Bill (Mr. Shaw Lefevre) June 9

Public Schools (Scotland) Teachers Bill

(Mr. Mundella, The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland)

c. Motion for Leave (Mr. Mundella) May 9, [269] 353; Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o [Bill 153]

Read 2^a, after short debate May 15

Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" June 5, [270] 208; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. A. Grant); after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Original Question put, and agreed to; Committee—R.P.

Committee; Report June 12, 949

Considered^{*}; read 3^o June 13

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Public Schools (Scotland) Teachers Bill—cont.

- l. Read 1st * (*Lord Carlisle*) June 15 (No. 143)
 Read 2nd, after short debate June 22, [271] 12
 Committee; Report, after short debate June 26, 375
 Read 3rd * June 27
 Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 18]

Public Works Loans Bill

(*Mr. Courtney, Mr. Trevelyan*)

- c. Resolutions considered in Committee, and agreed to Aug 4, [273] 889
 Resolutions reported; Bill ordered; read 1st * Aug 5 [Bill 269]
 Read 2nd * Aug 7
 Committee; Report Aug 10
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 Read 3rd * Aug 12
 l. Read 1st * (*Lord Thurlow*) Aug 14 (No. 254)
 Read 2nd *; Committee negatived Aug 15
 Read 3rd * Aug 16
 Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 62]

Public Worship Regulation Act (1874) Amendment Bill

(*Mr. Reid, Mr. Albert Grey, Mr. Stuart-Wortley*)
 c. Ordered; read 1st * Feb 24 [Bill 86]
 2R. [Dropped]

Public Worship Regulation Act—The Rev. Mr. Green

Question, Mr. J. G. Hubbard; Answer, Mr. Gladstone April 4, [268] 673
 [See titles *Ecclesiastical Courts* — *Imprisonment for Contumacy Bill*]

PUGH, Mr. L. P., *Cardiganshire*

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 Cooper's Hill College, Res. [268] 1130
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 Supreme Court of Judicature Acts Amendment, Comm. [269] 1690; cl. 1, Amendt. [270] 952
 Turnpike Roads (South Wales), 3R. [268] 1901

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Quarter Sessions Procedure (Amendment) Bill

(*Mr. Hastings, Mr. Richard Paget, Mr. Gurdon*)
 c. Ordered; read 1st * May 23 [Bill 178]
 2R. [Dropped]

Queen, The—*Attempt upon the Life of Her Majesty*

Lords

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty to express our horror and indignation at the reckless and wicked attempt made on Thursday last against Her Majesty's Sacred person, and our heartfelt congratulations to Her Majesty and the country on Her Majesty's happy preservation from danger; and to assure Her Majesty that we make it our earnest prayer to Almighty God that, as He has long preserved to us the blessings that we enjoy under Her Majesty's beneficent government, He will continue to watch over a life so highly prized by Her Majesty's loyal subjects" (*The Earl of Granville*) Mar 6, 183; after short debate, Motion agreed to, nemine dissentiente, and a message sent to the Commons to communicate to them the said Address and to desire their concurrence therewith

[cont.]

Queen, The — Attempt upon the Life of Her Majesty—cont.

Message from the Commons that they have agreed to the Address and have filled up the blank with the words ("and Commons"):
Ordered, That the Lord Steward do wait upon Her Majesty humbly to know what time Her Majesty will please to appoint to be attended with the said Address
Ordered, That the Lord Steward and the Lord Chamberlain do present the Address on the 267] part of this House *Mar 9, 441*
Message sent to the Commons
Message from the Commons, 449
The Queen's Answer to the Address reported *Mar 10, 577*

COMMONS

Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Sir William Harcourt *Mar 3, 29*
Message from the Lords.—That they have agreed to an Address to be presented to Her Majesty, to which they desire the concurrence of this House
The Message of the Lords taken into Consideration *Mar 8, 223*; after short debate, resolved, nemine contradicente, That this House doth agree with the Lords in the said Address to be presented to Her Majesty
Ordered, That a Message be sent to the Lords, to acquaint their Lordships that this House hath agreed to the Address to which the Lords desired the concurrence of this House, and have filled up the blank with the words "and Commons;" and that the Clerk do carry the said Message
Message from the Lords *Mar 9, 469*
Ordered, That Mr. Gladstone, Secretary Sir William Harcourt, the Comptroller of the Household, and the Vice Chamberlain of the Household do go with the Lords mentioned in their Lordships' Message
Message sent to the Lords
Her Majesty's Answer to the Address reported *Mar 10, 625*

Queen, The

Attempt upon the Life of Her Majesty by Rodrick Maclean, Observations, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir William Harcourt *Mar 2, [266] 2041*; Questions, Mr. Healy, Mr. Callan; Answers, Sir William Harcourt *April 3, [268] 541*
Marriage of H.R.H. the Duke of Albany, Question, Viscount Folkestone; Answer, Mr. Gladstone *Feb 28, [266] 1311*
Reported Accident to Her Majesty, Question, Mr. Warton; Answer, The Marquess of Hartington *Feb 16, [266] 790*
Royal Passengers — The "Albert Victor" Channel Steamer, Questions, Mr. Arthur Arnold; Answers, Lord Frederick Cavendish *April 27, [268] 1564*

RAIKES, Right Hon. H. C., *Preston*

Arrears of Rent (Ireland), Lords Amendts. Consid. [273] 1173
Church Patronage, 2R. [269] 57
Customs and Inland Revenue, 2R. [272] 414
Egypt—The Political Crisis, [270] 981

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RAIKES, Right Hon. H. C.—cont.

London River-side Fish Market, Lords Amendts. Consid. [271] 1936
Lower Thames Valley Main Sewerage Board, 3R. [267] 1798
Parish Churches, 2R. [267] 1554
Parliament—Business of the House, [267] 1146, 1147; [272] 2113;—Debate of Tuesday, Personal Explanations, [268] 310;—Ministerial Statement, [270] 1797
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Parliament — Business of the House — New Rules of Procedure, Res. [274] 63; Amendt. 67; First Rule (Putting the Question), Res. [267] 1302, 1313, 1315, 1319; [274] 113; Amendt. 239, 392, 437; Third Rule (Debates on Motions for Adjournment), 1527; Res. 1 (Standing Committees on Law and Courts of Justice, Trade, &c.), [275] 414, 438; Res. 2 (Nomination by Committee of Selection), 504
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Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Comm. cl. 10, [270] 1702
Ways and Means (Vote of Credit)—Income Tax, [272] 1983

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MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS

Artisans' Trains (Metropolis), Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, Mr. J. Holms *Nov 7, [274] 949*; Question, Mr. Firth; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Nov 16, 1542*;—7 & 8 *Vict. c. 85*, Question, Mr. Buxton; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Mar 24, [267] 1807*
Fall of Ivy Bridge (L. C. & D. Railway)—*Turiff Turnpike Road Bridge (G. N. S. Railway)*, Question, Mr. Gourley; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Dec 1, [275] 486*
Improved Couplings for Rolling Stock, Question, Sir Edward Reed; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Aug 17, [273] 2043*
Midland Railway—The Northern Express—Fire in a Pullman Car—Inquest on Dr. Arthur, Question, Mr. Alderman W. Lawrence; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Nov 6, [274] 845*
Printing Fares on Railway Tickets, Question, Mr. George Russell; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Aug 14, [273] 1676*
Standing Order 167, Question, Mr. Stuart-Wortley; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *May 26, [269] 1610*
Third Class Passenger Duty, Question, Mr. Buxton; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer *Aug 11, [273] 1525*
Use of Mirrors, Question, Dr. Cameron; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain *Nov 3, [274] 760*

Railways (Rates and Fares)

Moved "That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the Charges of Railway Companies, and Canal Companies, and Railway and Canal Companies, for the conveyance of merchandize, minerals, agricultural produce, and parcels on Railways and Canals, into the Laws and other conditions affecting such charges, and into the working of the Railway Commission of 1873; and to report as to

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Railways (Rates and Fares)—cont.

any amendment of the Laws and practice affecting the said charges and the powers of the said Commission that may be desirable, and to inquire into the Passenger Fares charged by Railway Companies and report thereon" (*Mr. Evelyn Ashley*) Feb 10, [266] 474; Motion agreed to

Moved, "That the Select Committee do consist of Twenty-seven Members" (*Mr. Evelyn Ashley*)

Amendt. to leave out "Twenty-seven," and insert "Twenty-nine" (*Mr. Dickson*) v.; Question proposed, "That the words 'Twenty-seven' stand part of the Question;" after short debate, Amendt. withdrawn

Original Question put, and agreed to

Committee nominated as follows:—*Mr. Evelyn Ashley* (Chairman), *Mr. Barclay*, *Mr. Barnes*, *Mr. Bolton*, *Mr. Caine*, *Mr. Callan*, *Lord Randolph Churchill*, *Mr. Craig*, *Mr. Cross*, *Mr. Dillwyn*, *Sir Daniel Gooch*, *Mr. Gregory*, *Sir Baldwin Leighton*, *Mr. Lowther*, *Mr. Monk*, *Mr. Samuel Morley*, *Mr. Mulholland*, *Mr. W. Newnam Nicholson*, *Mr. O'Sullivan*, *Mr. Richard Paget*, *Sir Joseph Pease*, *Mr. Pell*, *Mr. Phipps*, *Mr. Samuelson*, *Mr. Solater-Booth*, *Sir Henry Tyler*, and *Sir Edward Watkin*

The Draft Report, Question, *Mr. E. Stanhope*; Answer, *Mr. Evelyn Ashley* June 20, [270] 1761

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Railways (Continuous Brakes) Bill [H.L.]

(*The Earl De La Warr*)

1. Presented; read 1st Feb 24, [266] 1495 (No. 21)

Read 2nd, after short debate Mar 20, [267] 1254

Moved, "That the House do now resolve itself into Committee" May 22, [269] 1231

Previous question moved (*The Lord Colville of Culross*); after short debate, Previous question put, Whether the said question shall be now put? resolved in the negative

RAMSAY, Mr. J., Falkirk, &c.

Arrears of Rent (Ireland), Comm. add. cl. [272] 997; Consid. add. cl. 1169

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Board Schools (Scotland), 2R. [269] 8, 36

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Educational Endowments (Scotland), 2R. [272] 646; Consid. [273] 507; cl. 6, 510, 515; cl. 13, 519, 524; cl. 25, Amendt. 530, 533; cl. 29, Amendt. 534, 535

Electric Lighting, Comm. add. cl. Motion for reporting Progress, [272] 627, 628

Entail (Scotland), Comm. cl. 26, [273] 909; add. cl. 913

Law and Justice—Criminal Lunatics—Report of the Departmental Committee, [273] 982

Parcel Post, Comm. cl. 8, Amendt. [273] 707

Parliament—Business of the House—New Rules of Procedure—First Rule (Putting the Question), [274] 834

Parliament—Privilege—Suspension of Irish Members (July 1), Res. [273] 1317

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RATHBONE, Mr. W., Carnarvonshire

Arrears of Rent (Ireland), Comm. [271] 1671; Consid. add. cl. [272] 1145, 1288, 1291, 1304

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Parliament—Business of the House—New Rules of Procedure—Res. 1 (Standing Committees on Law and Courts of Justice, Trade, &c.), [275] 344, 345

Parliament—Business of the House (Urgency), Res. [271] 1323

Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), Comm. cl. 4, [269] 719

Prevention of Crime (Ireland), 2R. [269] 974

Supply—Forces in the Mediterranean (Vote of Credit), [272] 1861, 1865

Rating—Valuation of Government Establishments

Question, *Mr. Boord*; Answer, *Lord Frederick Cavendish* April 24, [268] 1270

Rating of Places of Religious Worship Bill

(*Mr. Arnold Morley, Mr. George Russell*)

c. Ordered * Feb 9

Read 1^o * Feb 10

Bill withdrawn * June 5

[Bill 32]

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Real and Personal Estate (Accumulation of Income) Bill

(*Mr. Davey,*

Mr. Arthur Arnold, Mr. Henry H. Fowler)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * June 15

[Bill 205]

2R. [Dropped]

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270] cl. 3, 243, 244; Amendt. 265; cl. 4, 584, 608; Amendt. 740, 926, 930; cl. 5, 1079; cl. 6, Amendt. 1105, 1107; cl. 7, 1335, 1338, 1361, 1455, 1456; cl. 11, 1843, 1844; Amendt. 1845, 1855, 1952
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Regent's Canal, City, and Docks Railway Bill (by Order)

c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
 Mar 7, [267] 360
 Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day six months" (Mr. Arthur Peel); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 244, N. 50; M. 194 (D. L. 40)
 Mar 13—Error in reporting number of Ayes, Tuesday, March 7
 Ordered, That the Clerk do correct the said error in the Journal of this House by stating the number of Ayes as 244 instead of 254
 Main Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
 Ordered, That the Bill be committed to a Select Committee, to consist of Nine Members, Five to be nominated by the House, and Four by the Committee of Selection (Mr. Chamberlain) Mar 8, 393
 And, on Mar 30, Committee nominated as follows:—Colonel Milne Home, Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. Gilbert Leigh, Mr. Peel, Mr. Round, and Four to be added by the Committee of Selection
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o"
 June 9, [270] 631
 Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day six months" (Mr. Monk); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Question put; A. 220, N. 74; M. 146 (D. L. 120)
 Main Question put, and agreed to (Queen's Consent signified); Bill read 3^o
 Lords Amendts. considered and agreed to, after short debate [Special Entries] Aug 15, [273] 1808

Registration of Voters (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Callan, Mr. Gray, Mr. Patrick Martin)
 c. Ordered * Feb 8
 Read 1^o * Feb 9 [Bill 16]
 2R. [Dropped]

Registry of Deeds (Middlesex) Bill
 (Mr. Attorney General, Lord Frederick Cavendish)
 c. Ordered * Feb 9
 Read 1^o * Feb 10 [Bill 22]
 Bill withdrawn * Aug 11

Registry of Deeds Office (Middlesex)—Return of Fees and Expenditure
 Question, Mr. Arthur O'Connor; Answer, Mr. Courtney July 6, [271] 1614

REID, Mr. R. T., Hereford

Arrears of Rent (Ireland), Comm. cl. 1, [271] 2030
 Criminal Law Amendment, 2R. [267] 437
 Egypt (Military Operations)—Proceedings of the Fleet at Alexandria—Policy of the Government, [272] 188
 India (Finance, &c.)—East India Revenue Accounts—Comm.—Annual Financial Statement, [273] 1774
 Prevention of Crime (Ireland), 2R. [269] 984; Comm. cl. 1, 1762; Amendt. [270] 109, 117; cl. 3, 246; cl. 4, 567; cl. 12, [271] 150; add. cl. 1450
 Protection of Person and Property (Ireland) Act Repeal, Motion for Leave, [266] 350

Representation of the People Act, 1868—The List of Voters — Insertion of Persons holding Parts of Houses
 Question, Captain Price; Answer, Sir William Harcourt July 7, [271] 1782

Representative Peers (Scotland) Election Procedure Bill [H.L.]

(The Earl of Galloway)

l. Presented; read 1^a, after short debate July 10, [271] 1910 (No. 190)
 2R. put off, after short debate July 17, [272] 673
 Read 2^a, after short debate July 21, 1206

REPTON, Mr. G. W. J., Warwick

Electric Lighting, Comm. add. cl. [272] 629
 Parliament—Business of the House, [273] 369

Reserve Forces Acts Consolidation Bill

(Mr. Secretary Childers, The Judge Advocate General, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman)
 c. Ordered; read 1^o * April 3 [Bill 124]
 Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
 July 22, [272] 1482; Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Biggar); Motion withdrawn
 Original Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
 Committee; Report Aug 3, [273] 619
 Considered *; read 3^o Aug 4
 l. Read 1^o * (Earl of Morley) Aug 7 (No. 224)
 Read 2^o * Aug 11
 Committee *; Report Aug 14
 Read 3^o * Aug 15
 Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 48]

Revenue, Friendly Societies, and National Debt Bill

(Mr. Courtney, Mr. Herbert Gladstone)

- c. Resolution considered in Committee and agreed 273 to, after short debate Aug 1, 503
Resolution reported; Bill ordered; read 1st Aug 1 [Bill 260]
Read 2nd, after short debate Aug 3, 723
Committee; Report Aug 7, 1098
Moved, "That the Bill, as amended, be now considered" Aug 14, 1783; Motion agreed to; read 3rd, after short debate
l. Read 1st (Lord Sudeley) Aug 15 (No. 257)
Read 2nd; Committee negatived Aug 16
Read 3rd Aug 17
Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 72]

Revenue, Friendly Societies, and National Debt [Stamp Duty, Payments, and Advances]

- c. Resolutions considered in Committee and agreed to Aug 4, [273] 890

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- Africa (South)—Zululand—John Dunn's Territory, [270] 474, 1237
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Land Law (Ireland)—Operation of the Act, Res. [267] 247, 250
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- Bills of Exchange, 2R. [272] 835
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Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881—Irish Land Commission—"Fair Rents," [269] 81, 82
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- North Eastern Railway (Additional Powers), 2R. [267] 350
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- Acorington Extension and Improvement, 2R. Motion for Adjournment, [267] 348
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Question, Sir Baldwin Leighton; Answer, Mr. Dodson Mar 13, [267] 749; Question, Mr. Heneage; Answer, Mr. Dodson Mar 24, 1810; Question, Mr. Duckham; Answer, Mr. Dodson May 19, [269] 1092; Question, Observations, The Earl of Sandwich; Reply, Lord Carrington June 23, [271] 181

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The Recent Floods—Wisbech and Lynn, Questions, Mr. Peel, Sir Arthur Otway; Answers, Mr. Dodson Nov 16, [274] 1847

Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention Bill (Mr. Dodson, Mr. Hibbert)

c. Ordered * Feb 9 [Bill 20]
Read 1^o * Feb 10
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
Feb 20, [266] 1195; after short debate, Question put; A. 147, N. 18; M. 129 (D. L. 12); Bill read 2^o
Question, Mr. R. H. Paget; Answer, Mr. Dodson Mar 2, 1949
Bill withdrawn * July 13

River Floods Prevention—The Ouse and the Derwent—Legislation

Question, Mr. Leeman; Answer, Mr. Dodson May 12, [269] 557

River Thames—The Pollution Commission

Question, Mr. Briggs; Answer, Sir James McGarel-Hogg July 17, [272] 699

Roads Provisional Order (Edinburgh) Bill

(The Lord Advocate, Mr. Solicitor General for Scotland)

c. Ordered * Feb 28 [Bill 93]
Read 1^o * Mar 1
Read 2^o * Mar 10
Report * April 25 [Bill 139]
Considered * April 27
Read 3^o * May 3

Roads Provisional Order (Edinburgh) Bill—cont.

l. Read 1^o * (Lord Rosebery) May 4 (No. 78)
Read 2^o * and committed: The Committee to be proposed by the Committee of Selection May 15
Report of Select Comm. * June 20
Committee * June 22
Report * June 23
Read 3^o * June 26
Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxxii]

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Educational Endowments (Scotland), 2R. [273] 1128; Comm. cl. 7, 1351; Report, 1496
[270] Entail (Scotland), 1R. 51, 54; 2R. 1223
[271] Comm. 758, 761
[272] Re-comm. 8; cl. 6, 9; cl. 7, 10, 11, 12; cl. 8, ib.; cl. 10, 14; cl. 14, 17, 18; cl. 15, 19; cl. 20, 22, 23; cl. 23, ib.; add. cl. 24; Report, 686; cl. 2, Amendt. 687; cl. 6, Amendt. ib.; cl. 7, 688; cl. 13, Amendt. ib. 691; cl. 18, Amendt. 693; cl. 20, Amendt. ib.; Schedule, Amendt. ib.
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Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Comm. cl. 12, [271] 149
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Royal Courts of Justice—See title *Courts of Justice, The Royal*

Royal Irish Constabulary (Pay &c.) Bill
(Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland)

c. Moved, That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee to consider of authorising the increase of pay of certain officers of the Royal Irish Constabulary Force, and of amending the Acts regulating [273] the same" (Mr. Trevelyan) July 31, 330; Question put (Queen's Recommendation signified); A. 25, N. None; M. 25 (D. L. 307)
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 2, 547; after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Matter considered in Committee
Moved, "That it is expedient to amend the Acts regulating the Pay, Pensions, and Retirement of certain Officers of the Royal Irish Constabulary Force;" after short debate, Question put, and agreed to
Resolution reported, and agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o Aug 3 [Bill 264]
Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" Aug 5, 926
Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Healy); after short debate, Question put; A. 8, N. 53; M. 45 (D. L. 317)
Original Question put, and agreed to; Bill read 2^o
Order for Committee read; Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair" Aug 7, 1072; after short debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Callan); after further short debate, Question put; A. 6, N. 64; M. 58 (D. L. 320)
Question again proposed, "That Mr. Speaker, &c." 1097; Moved, "That this House do now adjourn" (Mr. Arthur O'Connor); after short debate, Motion withdrawn
Original Question put, and agreed to; Committee—R.P.

. Committee; Report Aug 8, 1243

. Considered Aug 10, 1484

Read 3^o Aug 11

l. Read 1^o (Lord Privy Seal) Aug 14 (No. 255)

Read 2^o; Committee negatived, after short debate Aug 15, 1797

Read 3^o Aug 16

Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 63]

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- Arrears of Rent (Ireland), Comm. cl. 1, [272] 325, 475, 479; Lords Amendts. Consid. [273] 1171, 1183
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- 269] Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Comm. 1467
- 270] cl. 3, 250; cl. 4, Amendt. 339, 342, 453, 531, 680; cl. 5, Amendt. 988, 1002; cl. 7, 1319, 1430, 1441, 1449, 1455; Amendt. 1461
- Public Affairs, State of—Irish Policy of the Government, Ministerial Statement, [268] 1992

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- Parliament—Privilege—Suspension of Irish Members (July 1), Res. [273] 1303
- Parnell, Mr., M.P. (Release from Kilmainham), Adjournment of the House, [275] 51
- Post Office—Letter Carriers, &c. in Rural Districts, [267] 450
- Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Comm. [269] 1626; cl. 11, [270] 1879; Consid. cl. 14, [271] 1821
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- Persecution of the Jews*, Question, Observations, The Duke of Somerset; Reply, Earl 266] Granville; short debate thereon Feb 9, 225; Questions, Mr. W. H. James, Mr. Serjeant Simon; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke, Mr. Gladstone, 244; Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Feb 13, 503; Questions, Viscount Folkestone, Baron Henry De Worms; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke Feb 20, 1102; Questions, Baron Henry De Worms; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke 268] Mar 23, [267] 1661; Mar 27, 23; April 27, 269] 1559; May 1, 1817; May 25, 1811; Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Mr. Gladstone July 24, 1848
- The Jews in Europe—The "Christian and Jew,"* Question, Mr. R. Power; Answer, Sir William Harcourt Feb 20, [266] 1098

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- The Australian Colonies—Designs of Russia*, Question, Observations, The Earl of Belmore; Reply, The Earl of Kimberley May 12, [269] 547
- The Postal Convention—Delivery of Newspapers*, Question, Mr. Gourley; Answer, Mr. Fawcett Aug 17, [273] 2044
- The Russo-Turkish War Indemnity*, Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 4, [273] 749

Russia—Persecution of the Jews

- Amendt. on Committee of Supply Mar 3, To leave out from "That," and add "this House, deeply deploring the persecution and outrages to which the Jews have been subjected in portions of the Russian Empire, trusts that Her Majesty's Government will find means, either alone or in conjunction with other Great Powers, of using their good offices with the Government of His Majesty the Czar to prevent the recurrence of similar acts of violence" (*Baron Henry De Worms*) v. [267] 30; Question proposed, "That the words, &c.;" after debate, Amendt. withdrawn
- Correspondence . . . P.P. [3132] [3250]

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- The Boundary Treaty*, Questions, Baron Henry De Worms; Answers, Sir Charles 266] W. Dilke Feb 9, 238; Question, Mr. E. Stanhope; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Feb 14, 635; Question, Sir George Campbell; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Feb 24, 1527; Question, Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Mar 2, 1933; Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke 267] Mar 14, 894
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- Army Estimates—Vote for the Autumn Manœuvres, [272] 279
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- British North Borneo Company (Charter), Res. [267] 1211
- Corrupt Practices (Suspension of Elections), 2R. [273] 915
- Cyprus (Finance, &c.), [266] 1228;—Grant of a Constitution—The Despatch, [268] 1103
- Customs and Inland Revenue, Comm. cl. 5, [273] 227
- Egypt (Military Operations)—Proceedings of the Fleet at Alexandria—Policy of the Government, [272] 180
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- Ireland—Extraordinary, Naval, Military, and Police Expenditure, Motion for a Return, [266] 1380

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- Parliament—Privilege—Northampton New Writ, Res. [266] 1245
- Parliamentary Elections (Corrupt and Illegal Practices), 2R. [268] 1592; Comm. cl. 1, [269] 711; cl. 4, 750, 751
- Prevention of Crime (Ireland), Comm. cl. 5, [270] 993; cl. 7, 1365; cl. 11, 1908
- Rivers Conservancy and Floods Prevention, 2R. [266] 1200
- Supply—Grants for Civil Services (Excesses), [267] 1245
 - Metropolitan Police Court Buildings, [272] 1637
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- Wales (South)—General Superintendent of Roads, [267] 660
- Ways and Means, Report, [268] 1410

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- Criminal Law—Cases of Suspected Poisoning, [267] 1141; [268] 4
- Cyprus, Island of—The New Constitution—Status of the Jews, [269] 92
- Navy—Liability of Officers—Retired Pay, [270] 1264

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- Question, Sir Edmund Lechmere; Answer, Mr. Chamberlain April 3, [268] 548

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday Bill (Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Birley, Mr. William McArthur, Mr. Charles Wilson, Mr. Walter James, Mr. Charles Rose)

- c. Ordered: read 1^o May 24 [Bill 182]
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o" July 19, [272] 1031
- Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon this day three months" (Mr. Warton); Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;" after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. J. G. Talbot): after further short debate, Debate adjourned
- Bill withdrawn * Aug 8

Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday (Cornwall) Bill

(Mr. Pendarves Vivian, Sir John St. Aubyn, Mr. Agar-Robartes, Mr. Borlase)

- c. Motion for Leave (Mr. Pendarves Vivian) Mar 2, [266] 2039; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill ordered; read 1^o [Bill 95]
- Moved, "That the Bill be read 2^o To-morrow" Aug 11, [273] 1622
- Amendt. to leave out "To-morrow," and insert "upon Monday next" (Mr. Warton) v.; Question proposed, "That 'To-morrow,' &c.;" after short debate, Question put; A. 44, N. 8; M. 36 (D. L. 331)
- Main Question put, and agreed to
- Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o;" Aug 12, 1850; after debate, Question put; A. 41, N. 8; M. 33 (D. L. 332); Bill read 2^o Committee Tues. Oct 24

Sale of Liquors on Sunday (Ireland) Bill

Formerly—

Sunday Closing (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Richardson, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Corry, Mr. Redmond, Mr. Thomas Dickson, Mr. Meldon, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Arthur O'Connor, Mr. Blake)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o May 2 [Bill 148]
- Moved, "That the Bill be read 2^o upon Saturday next" July 20, [272] 1170
- After short debate, Amendt. to leave out "Saturday," and insert "Monday" (Mr. Warton) v.; Question proposed, "That 'Saturday,' &c.;" Question put; A. 30, N. 25; M. 5 (D. L. 285)
- Main Question put, and agreed to
- Bill withdrawn * Aug 9

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- 272] Arrears of Rent (Ireland), 1205, 1206; 2R. 1919, 1923
- 273] Comm. cl. 1, Amendt. 156, 158, 182; cl. 4, 193; cl. 5, 197; Report, cl. 1, 337, 342, 343; cl. 5, 345; cl. 17, 347; 3R. 352; Commons Amendts. to Lords Amendts. Consid. 1330, 1331
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(b.) The number now in existence;

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(a.) The number registered;

(b.) The number which have since been cut off;

(c.) The number now in existence" (*The Earl of Camperdown*) June 13, [270]

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(*Mr. Robertson, Mr. Samuel Holland, Mr. Rathbone, Viscount Emllyn*)

a. Ordered; read 1st Feb 15 [Bill 68]
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Committee; Report Mar 2
Read 3rd Mar 3
l. Read 1st (E. Camperdown) Mar 6 (No. 28)
Read 2nd Mar 10
Committee; Report Mar 14
Read 3rd Mar 16
Royal Assent Mar 29 [45 Vict. c. 3]

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The Zamora Waterworks Company, Question, Mr. J. B. Yorke; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke *July 14*, [272] 448

SPEAKER, The (Right Hon. Sir H. B. W. BRAND), Cambridgeshire

Mr. Speaker's Illness—The Clerk at the Table having informed the House of the unavoidable absence of the Speaker from indisposition, Mr. Playfair, Chairman of Committees, took the Chair as Deputy Speaker, [275] 261

The Leave of the House

Mr. Speaker: I may say, in answer to the noble Lord's Question, that the understanding with reference to the "leave of the House" is that it involves unanimity on the part of the House. Whenever the Question is put from the Chair, "Is it your pleasure that so-and-so be done?" if there is a single dissentient voice, the leave of the House is not given, [274] 1380

Difference in signification between the two expressions "by leave of the House" and "with the indulgence of the House," [274] 1557

The words "by order of the House" would be more usual than "by vote of the House," [275] 440

Questions to the Chair—Mr. Speaker points out the inconvenience of putting Questions to the Chair, except upon points of Order as they arise, [274] 1557

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is not asking me a Question on a point of Order now arising; and, therefore, I must respectfully decline to answer, [270] 1769

Mr. Speaker declines to answer an hypothetical Question, [270] 1591

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has given Notice of a Question for Tuesday next. I am bound to observe that it is not usual for hon. Members to give Notice publicly of Questions to the Chair, or to put those Questions on the Paper, [271] 1623

THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Until comparatively recent times the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means did not usually take the Chair in other Committees, but any other Member could act as Chairman. But when the sittings of Committees on Bills became more protracted, it was arranged that the Chairman of Ways and Means should ordinarily take the Chair in Committees on Government Bills, and sometimes on other Bills. But at no time was the attendance of the Chairman of Ways and Means necessary for the constitution of Committees. In his absence it has been customary for another hon. Member to take the Chair, and this convenient practice has not hitherto been called in question or objected to, [271] 1623

SPEAKER, The—cont.

Mr. Speaker: I am not aware that the Chairman of Ways and Means has ever voted in the Committee; but, at the same time, I am not prepared to say that he is not entitled to vote. The House is aware that the Speaker himself is entitled to vote, [271] 1265, 1131

MESSAGES FROM THE CROWN

Any Message direct from the Crown, and read to the House from the Chair, is always received by Members of this House uncovered, and an entry to that effect is made in the Votes. That observation does not apply to an Answer from the Sovereign to an Address from this House, [267] 1442, 1443

SITTING AND ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Moving the Adjournment of the House at Question time—Mr. Speaker points out the great inconvenience that would arise from this practice under certain circumstances, [267] 491

When a Substantive Motion for the Adjournment of the House is made, I am at a loss to state what subject cannot be discussed. What has happened this evening shows how necessary it is that the House should restrain the abuse of the right of moving the Adjournment of the House, [267] 605

On April 18, Mr. Sexton, having put a Question respecting the state of Ireland, and, being dissatisfied with the Answer, moved the Adjournment of the House—discussion thereon. On the 24th April Mr. Sexton proposed to move the Adjournment of the House under precisely similar circumstances—"Order!"—Mr. Speaker: I am bound to say that I consider that to raise again the same Question upon this occasion would be a gross abuse of the privilege ordinarily conceded to hon. Members, [268] 1248

Business of the House—Mr. Gladstone having moved at the commencement of Business "That this House, at its rising, do adjourn until Thursday, 1st of June"—Objected, that this Motion was brought forward at the wrong moment, because it ought to have come after the Questions, and not before them. Mr. Speaker said: I am bound to say that the more regular course would be to make the Motion after the Questions have been asked, [269] 1699

ORDERS OF THE DAY—MOTIONS AND QUESTIONS

Identity of Notices—Mr. Labouchere having placed on the Notice Book a Notice of Motion relating to Mr. Bradlaugh, the Northampton Election, &c., in reference to which subject Notices "substantially identical in object, though varying in their terms," had already been placed on the Book by another hon. Member—Notice being taken—Mr. Speaker said: My attention has been called

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SPEAKER, The—cont.

to this matter, I have looked into it, and am bound to say that the course proposed by the hon. Member for Northampton is highly inconvenient, if not irregular. I have examined the several Notices of Motions referred to, and although they may not be identical, if some of the Motions were negatived by the House, many others could not be put, as being substantially the same, [274] 27

The Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule—Opposed Business

Agricultural Tenants' Compensation, &c. Bills

—Motion that the Committee shall consist of 27 Members; but the Motion of the hon. Member that one of the Members should be omitted was in direct contradiction to that Motion. Mr. Speaker said that the Resolution of February 18, 1879, did not apply in this case. There was no Notice of opposition, and, therefore, there was no objection to the Motion being taken, [272] 967, 968

When a Member in charge of a Bill has desired to commit that Bill *pro forma* to have it reprinted, it has been decided that there is no objection to that Motion by reason of the Rule with regard to opposed Business, because the Bill is again placed for Committee, and the block stands against that stage, [268] 116

Money Bills

The hon. Member is aware, no doubt, that the Rule as to taking Opposed Business after half-past 12 does not apply to Money Bills, [272] 294

East India (Expenses of Military Expedition to Egypt)

—Mr. A. O'Connor asked whether the Resolution would come within the terms of the Rule exempting Money Bills from the operation of the Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule? Mr. Speaker said, it appeared to him that the Resolution would not come within the operation of that Rule, and might be brought forward after half-past 12 o'clock, [272] 1991, 2116

The Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule—Settled

Land Bill.—Moved, That the Order for going into Committee be discharged, and that the Bill be committed to a Select Committee. Objection being taken, Mr. Speaker said: I consider that the Rule with regard to Opposed Business does not apply in this particular case, because the right hon. Gentleman who has charge of the Bill does not propose to advance it, and hereafter the Question "That the Speaker do leave the Chair" will be put from the Chair in the usual manner, [270] 351

The Bill (*Arklow Harbour Bill*) being essentially of a monetary character, it is excepted from the operation of the Standing Order relating to Opposed Business, [268] 1631

Select Committees

Report—The Rule with regard to Opposed Business does not apply when the House is engaged with the consideration of a Bill on Report, [269] 528

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—cont.

A Motion to refer a Bill to a Select Committee does not come under the Rule as to Opposed Business, inasmuch as it does not propose to advance the Bill a stage, [270] 351, 352; [271] 1736

On Motion for the Nomination of the Select Committee on Canals—Objected, that the Names of the proposed Committee were put down last on Saturday; whereas the number had since been increased by five Names. Mr. Speaker said, that these Names appeared among the Notices of Motion for the first time this day, having been added to the Committee since the last Sitting; therefore if the hon. Gentleman thought proper to object to proceeding at this hour with these Names, the objection would be good against these particular Names, [271] 165

Mr. Callan asked whether he was to take it as the ruling of the Chair that this Bill (*Parcel Post Bill*) being objected to, did not come under the Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule? Mr. Speaker: The Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule applies to Notices of Motion; this is an Order of the Day, [272] 2116

Unopposed Returns—It is not customary to give Notice of an unopposed Return. The course taken by a Minister of the Crown in presenting this Paper (relating to the Meath Election) to the House without Notice is quite in Order, [266] 1710, 1807, 1810, 1811

The House allows unopposed Motions for Returns to be taken before the commencement of Public Business; but as this matter appears to be opposed, it will have to come on for debate when the Orders of the Day and Notices of Motion have been disposed of, [270] 805

Opposed Motions—The Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule, [270] 964

Mr. Labouchere having handed in "blocking" Notices to 10 Bills, by error of the printer these Notices did not appear on the Paper. Mr. Speaker said that, no Notice of opposition appearing on the Paper through this accident, of course the Notice of opposition will have no vitality, and the Business will proceed in the usual way, [266] 249

Wednesdays—It being a quarter before Six of the clock, Mr. J. Howard moved for leave to introduce a Bill. Mr. Warton objected. Mr. Speaker: If an objection is made at this hour the Motion cannot be proceeded with, [266] 217

Morning Sitzings—The Seven o'clock Rule

A Question respecting the affairs of Egypt being asked, and debate arising, it being 10 minutes before Seven o'clock the debate stood adjourned. Mr. A. O'Connor rose to Order, and asked whether the remaining Questions would now be taken? Mr. Speaker: Under the special circumstances of the case, I think those Questions should be dropped, [272] 922

ORDERS OF THE DAY—PRIVILEGE

Privilege (Mr. Bradlaugh)—Mr. Speaker—I have considered very carefully the operation of the Resolution of the 7th of February as it

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

affects Mr. Bradlaugh, and I have come to the conclusion that that Resolution applied to Mr. Bradlaugh personally as Member for Northampton. When Mr. Bradlaugh ceased to be Member for Northampton that Resolution, in my opinion, ceased to be operative; and although he has now been again returned as Member for Northampton I cannot consider that that Resolution has revived, or is now in force, [267] 191, 192

Parliamentary Oath (Mr. Bradlaugh)—It is a well-known Rule of the House that no hon. Member is to come to the Table to be sworn until he has been called upon to do so by the Speaker: And having regard to the Resolution of yesterday, I consider myself bound not to call upon the hon. Member for Northampton to come to the Table to be sworn, [267] 300

Proceedings in the case of Mr. Bradlaugh, [266] 1246, 1251, 1323, 1341, 1342, 1343, 1346, 1347

Communication to the House (Mr. Bradlaugh)—Mr. Speaker: In pursuance of my duty to the House I have read the letter of the hon. Member for Northampton, and upon that letter having been read Notice of a Motion has been given. The matter is so far at an end that no debate can arise upon it, because it is not a question of Privilege, [274] 1328

Northampton New Writ—The question whether there was anything in the Resolution (Parliamentary Oath—Mr. Bradlaugh) which created a vacancy in the representation of Northampton; and, if not, whether it was possible to move for a new Writ, was, Mr. Speaker said, rather a matter for the House than the Chair to decide, [266] 1246

According to the established custom of the House, hon. Members, having affirmed or taken the Oath of Allegiance, are always called upon to sign the Test Book; but Mr. Speaker was not prepared to say—it is a question for the House to decide—whether an hon. Member's not doing so, of itself, invalidates his return, [266] 1314

New Writs—Mr. Speaker explains the Rules governing the issue of New Writs. As regards the question of the hon. Member (Mr. Labouchere) whether on the precedent of the Middlesex Election in 1789 he was entitled to move that the electors of the Borough of Northampton be heard at the Bar? Mr. Speaker points out that the Standing Orders with regard to Petitions were not in existence at that time, [267] 1521

Proceedings on the Suspension of Irish Members on the morning of Saturday, July 1, [271] 1204, 1329

Privilege—Obstruction.—Mr. Speaker observes upon the course he had taken in regard to the suspension of sixteen Irish Members on Saturday, July 1, [271] 1262

The name of Mr. Justin M'Carthy appearing in the Votes as one of the Members named by the Chairman of Committees on Saturday, July 1, it was alleged that the hon. Member's name was not read by the Chairman of Committees on that occasion. Discussion of this subject. Mr. Speaker ruled that it was

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

not a question of Privilege. If the hon. Member desired to bring the matter before the House, he must do it by way of Motion, [271] 1269

Proceedings in the case of Mr. O'Donnell reported to Mr. Speaker by Mr. Playfair (Chairman of Committees) as having insulted the Chairman, saying that the action taken by him was an infamy, [271] 1130, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1277, 1278, 1280, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1290, 1292, 1296, 1300, 1302, 1303

Mr. Mundella said that when, a few minutes before 7 to-day, it was proposed that the Bill should be taken on Saturday, any hon. Member might object, and then the Motion would have to be adjourned to the Evening Sitting, when it might be discussed. Mr. Speaker said the right hon. Gentleman had stated the case correctly, [272] 420

Mr. Speaker said, there was no doubt that the First Order of the Day on Friday should be Committee of Supply, and that, a Resolution having been passed to give precedence to the *Prevention of Crime Bill*, the Order of Committee of Supply should have taken the second place, [270] 665

AMENDMENTS TO QUESTIONS

Order of Amendments—Supposing two Amendments substantially the same are brought to the Table—one in the hands of the Member in charge of the Bill, and the other in the hands of another Member—precedence is given to the Amendment of the Member who has charge of the Bill, [270] 82

In putting the Question he (Mr. Speaker) was bound to put it in the form, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question;" and if that was agreed to, no further Amendment could be put, [275] 153

Mr. Speaker explains that putting the Question in a form stated was for the purpose of not excluding other Amendments, [267] 1145

An Amendment which is substantially the same as an Amendment previously negated by this House cannot properly be moved, [269] 340

An Amendment having been moved for the re-committal of the Bill, another Amendment cannot be taken until that Question has been disposed of, [268] 1903

Bill considered in Committee, and reported, with Amendments. Moved, "That the Bill be re-committed." Mr. W. H. Smith asked whether the Amendments on the Paper to the Motion "That Mr. Speaker leave the Chair" would stand good for the amended Bill? Mr. Speaker: The Amendments on the Motion "That Mr. Speaker leave the Chair" on going into Committee on this Bill remain as Amendments on the Paper, [271] 162

An Amendment is not in Order which is not relevant to the Motion to which it refers, [269] 461, 961

An Amendment which proposes that certain Statutes relating to the Parliamentary Oath shall be amended in the sense of the original

(*cont.*)

(*cont.*)

SPEAKER, The—cont.

Resolution is quite relevant to that Resolution, [267] 219
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 The Amendment having been moved by the noble Lord the Member for Woodstock can only be withdrawn by the noble Lord himself, [275] 411
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 An hon. Member citing a speech made in the House of Lords and naming the Peer who delivered it is clearly out of Order, [267] 44
 There is no Order of the House that one private Member who has given Notice of a Motion directly affecting the Question before the House shall have priority over another, [266] 1327
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 If any hon. Member in putting a Question—which he does entirely within his own right—is subject to censure, that censure should come from the Chair, [270] 1270
 An hon. Member in speaking must address himself to the Chair, [271] 61
 Explanation—Mr. Dillon having read a letter of personal explanation from Mr. Patrick Egan of Paris—Mr. Macartney asked whether a Member is entitled to make a personal explanation on behalf of a gentleman who is not a Member of this House? Mr. Speaker said—I consider the observations of the hon. Member are irregular, having regard to the manner in which he proposes to bring the matter before the House, [269] 1096

Premature discussion of a subject—The hon. Member is now anticipating the discussion of a Motion of which Notice has actually been given by the noble Lord the Secretary of State for India. The hon. Member must confine himself strictly to the Question before the House, [272] 1561, 1562

A Member cannot, under cover of a Motion for the Adjournment of the House, anticipate the discussion of a Motion which is set down on the Paper, [273] 756 ; [274] 1319, 1320, 1323

The hon. and gallant Member is not in Order in discussing a Bill not now before the House on a Motion for the Adjournment of the House, [270] 1174

It is irregular to discuss the clauses of a Bill on the Motion for the Second Reading, unless the clause so discussed raised some principle of the Bill, [268] 940

Settled Land Bill—It is out of Order to enter into matter falling within the purpose of a Bill on the Question "That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee," [270] 351

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—cont.

Metropolis Management, &c., Bill—Committee—Moved, "That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair:"—Mr. Speaker:—The hon. Member appears to me to be going through the Bill clause by clause. In so doing he is anticipating the functions of the Committee, [268] 2018
 The Question being simply the suspension of the Standing Orders in reference to this Bill (*Dover Harbour Bill*), upon a Motion of that kind it would not be regular to discuss the merits of the Bill, [272] 1959

Speaking a second time—The Rule of Debate is this—that a Member who proposes a Question to the House is considered to have spoken; and I apprehend that in the case quoted by the right hon. and learned Gentleman—that of a Member having so risen to address the House and being afterwards allowed to withdraw his Motion—he will still be held to have spoken, because he has risen in his place to address the House, [274] 1524

Mr. Speaker: I wish to point out that it is the usual practice, as the House knows, on the consideration of Bills or Motions, to allow the Member who is in charge of the Bill to make an explanation on any point. The House is now engaged in an analogous proceeding (the New Rules of Procedure), and, with the indulgence of the House, the right hon. Gentleman can again speak, [274] 1495, 1499

A Member who has addressed the House on the Main Question is not in Order in seconding the Motion for the Adjournment of the House, [268] 1777

A Member seconding the Motion for the Adjournment of the House is fully entitled to speak at the time. If he raises his hat he can only speak later in the debate by the indulgence of the House, [267] 894

Right of Reply—A Member who has submitted to the House a substantive Resolution, no Amendment having been moved thereto, is nevertheless entitled to reply, [266] 1255

A Member who has seconded a Motion is not entitled to speak again, [267] 301

Speaking a second time not allowed, [266] 352 ; [267] 308, 700, 1020 ; [268] 287 ; [270] 1781

Reflections upon the Judges.—The House is always very guarded in its expressions in reviewing the conduct of the Judges of the land. It is not becoming to a Judge to give hear-say stories with regard to his conduct, [268] 1143

The hon. Member (Mr. Macfarlane), when he speaks of the Judges of the land, must use temperate and moderate language. If he has any censure to pass upon a Judge, the Law and the Constitution point out the course to be followed, [273] 2015

RULES OF DEBATE—WORDS TO BE TAKEN DOWN

Mr. Speaker—With regard to the practice of taking down words, I have to point out to the House that it is not done by a Motion

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—cont.

made and debated in the House; but it is done at the discretion of the Speaker or Chairman of Committees as the case may be, [270] 365; [272] 1585

The entry was made upon the statement of the Chairman of Committees at the time, and the entry is exactly in pursuance of what the Chairman stated to be the occurrence as it took place, [270] 366, 367

Mr. Callan rose to Order. He moved that the right hon. Gentleman's words be taken down. Mr. Speaker said, the hon. Gentleman was too late, after his first appeal, to move that the right hon. Gentleman's words should be taken down. The hon. Member could not propose two courses to the House, [268] 198

RULES OF DEBATE—UN-PARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE

The expression "colleagues in Atheism" is unbecoming; but Mr. Bradlaugh not being at that moment a Member of the House, Mr. Speaker did not feel called upon to interpose, [266] 1855

In using the phrase "language of a most inflammatory character," the hon. Member appears to have used an epithet that is open to controversy, [275] 231

The right hon. and learned Gentleman (Sir William Harcourt) says that the hon. and learned Member for Bridport (Mr. Warton) has wantonly and unjustifiably wasted the time of the House. The right hon. and learned Gentleman is responsible for these expressions. I am bound to say that I do not see they are out of Order, [273] 1654

Mr. Labouchere having given Notice respecting the House of Lords in which that House was spoken of as "useless," Mr. Speaker disallowed that expression. An hon. Member also asked whether it is competent for this House to raise the Question of the abolition of the House of Lords? The hon. Member must be aware that that proposition had been frequently before the House, [267] 389

Mr. Biggar: Some people like to see misery and suffering; and he strongly suspected that as to the motives that had actuated the right hon. Gentleman in going to Ireland at the time, it was to gratify his love of personal suffering. Mr. Speaker: The motives attributed by the hon. Member are atrocious. I must distinctly call upon him to withdraw that observation. Mr. Biggar said, he would at once withdraw it, [267] 621

The hon. Member for Cavan (Mr. Biggar) is again imputing unworthy motives to the right hon. Gentleman. I must caution the hon. Member that if he proceeds in that course I shall have to bring his name before the House, [267] 804

Mr. Healy: If the right hon. Gentleman the Prime Minister had the heart of a man he would get up at that Table— Mr. Speaker: The language of the hon. Member is really not to be tolerated, [267] 809

Mr. Warton asked whether it was in Order for an hon. Member to charge a Member of that House with sheltering himself behind a miserable subterfuge? Mr. Speaker said: The hon. Member is attributing an unworthy

SPEAKER, The—cont.

motive to a Member of this House. The expression used by him should be withdrawn, [267] 808

If the hon. Member attributes private malice to the Members of the Government in the execution of the Coercion Act, he is strictly out of Order, [266] 256

The hon. Member is out of Order in imputing intentional deceit on the part of the Government, [272] 894

Mr. Dillon: But the character of this new Coercion Bill, and, I may add, the character of the bloodthirsty speech—[*Cries of "Order!"*] Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must be aware that an expression of that kind is unbecoming and un-Parliamentary, [269] 485

Mr. Goschen having said that "it is for the Executive Government of Great Britain and Ireland to deal with this crisis, and it is not for hon. Members who have been steeped in treason"—[*"Order!"*] Mr. Speaker: If the right hon. Gentleman used the expression towards any particular Member or body of Members of this House, he was certainly not in Order, [269] 517

Mr. A. O'Connor: But what were they to expect so long as they were governed by foreigners? Mr. Speaker: No hon. Member is entitled to speak of this House as consisting of foreigners—and called on the hon. Member to withdraw the expression, [269] 1648

An hon. Member having said of another that he is of "remarkably fragile honour," Mr. Speaker said: An expression of that kind is certainly not Parliamentary; and I call on the hon. Member to withdraw it, [268] 1539

To say that a statement made by an hon. Member is the reverse of the truth is altogether irregular, [268] 1652

To say that an hon. Member has not kept his word is an expression hardly befitting an hon. Member, [268] 643

The hon. and gallant Baronet would not be in Order in imputing falsehood to any hon. Member; but I did not understand him to do so. He must, however, accept the disavowal of the expression attributed to the Prime Minister, [269] 143

Mr. Sexton: The year before last the right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Forster) told a Resident Magistrate that Mr. Clifford Lloyd was the only honest man among them. Mr. Forster: I entirely deny that statement. Mr. Sexton: Mr. Speaker, I can only repeat my observation. Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is not entitled to make that assertion after the disclaimer of the right hon. Gentleman. I would warn the hon. Member that he is bound to accept the disavowal of the right hon. Gentleman the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, [268] 993, 1009

Mr. Redmond: If the right hon. Gentleman had been an honest politician or an honest man— Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member for New Ross must be quite aware that an observation of that kind is un-Parliamentary, and I call upon him to withdraw it. [Mr.

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SPEAKER, The—cont.

Redmond, persisting in his language, was suspended from the service of the House, [268] 1016

Dr. Commins: Either those two hon. Gentlemen were utterly destitute of influence among their constituents, or, if they had influence, they were cowards who dared not go among their constituents to deliver their speeches. Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is bound to withdraw that expression applied to a Member of this House. Dr. Commins: I said "if." Mr. Speaker: I must distinctly call on the hon. Member to withdraw that expression, and apologize to the House for using it. Dr. Commins: I withdraw the expression, Mr. Speaker, [267] 613

The hon. Members for the Queen's County and Roscommon having used offensive expressions towards two other hon. Members, not openly nor as addressed to the House—a question of Order arising, Mr. Speaker said: I think the House will expect the hon. Members to express regret, because, although these observations were not made openly, still they were made in this House, where hon. Members are accustomed to speak of one another with respect, [270] 1279

He (Lord Claud Hamilton) deliberately refused, if he sat there for 24 hours, to allow the money of his constituents to be voted away to enable the Prime Minister to pander to treason and the Land League in Ireland. Mr. Speaker: The noble Lord must be quite aware that the expressions he had just used were quite un-Parliamentary, [269] 1361

Mr. Healy: The Government were only humbugging—Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is using language which is not Parliamentary. Mr. Healy said, he was using the phrase "humbugging" in reference—Mr. Speaker: I have told the hon. Member that he is using language that is not Parliamentary, [272] 1983

Mr. Newdegate having stated that a certain measure had originated in the disorderly conduct and the rebellious action of the hon. Member for Cork—"Order!"—Mr. Speaker ruled that the words used by the hon. Member for North Warwickshire were not Parliamentary, [269] 197

Disorderly interruptions (Mr. Callan), [273] 2008

RULES OF DEBATE—QUESTIONS—ANSWERS

If an hon. Member desires to put a Question he has a perfect right to do so; but as to insisting upon an answer, I have only to say that that is what he has no right to do, [269] 460

Notice of Questions.—It is, undoubtedly, within the province of a Minister of the Crown, if he should think fit, to desire that Notice be given of a Question, or to decline to answer it in the public interest, [266] 1530; [267] 14; [269] 104

Several hon. Members having put Questions, without Notice, respecting the "political crisis in Egypt," Mr. Speaker said: I think it is right to point out that in Questions of a grave character such as these, the hon.

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—cont.

Baronet (the Under Secretary of State) is entitled to ask that Notice should be given, and also, if he thinks proper, to decline to answer on public grounds, [270] 1258, 1272
The hon. Gentleman has put a Question and received such an Answer as the right hon. Gentleman, acting on his responsibility, thinks proper to give. He cannot, therefore, repeat the Question, [270] 661; [271] 1788, 1789

The hon. Gentleman can, if he desires, put a Question arising out of the answer of the hon. Gentleman; but he is not at liberty to debate the matter, [270] 1252; [275] 17

An hon. Member, in putting a Question, introduced the words "evident intention of the Legislature" which were not in his Notice. On Order—Mr. Speaker said the words should have been left out; but he saw no reason for interposing between the hon. Member and the House. No doubt, every material alteration should be submitted to the Chair, [274] 374

I was about to point out to the House and to the hon. Member (Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett) the extreme inconvenience of founding Questions on every telegram in every newspaper. I am bound to say that it does appear to me that, before Questions of such gravity are put, an hon. Member should take some measures to ascertain the truth of the telegrams, [270] 1132

If the hon. Member is founding a Question upon a conversation which took place in the Lobby of the House, or in the Division Lobby within the precincts of the House, and not upon a matter in the House itself, he is not in Order in taking notice of it, [268] 556

Debateable Matter—The House is aware that in putting Questions no debateable matter should be introduced into those Questions, [267] 896, 897, 1429; [268] 555; [270] 1252; [272] 1337; [274] 174; [275] 17

The Rules of the House in regard to putting and answering Questions is that no opinion should be expressed in putting or in answering Questions, [266] 1932

An hon. Member having received an answer to his Question, proceeded to address the House on the subject-matter. Mr. Speaker said the hon. Gentleman was not entitled to enter into debate. He could only ask a further Question arising out of the Answer already given, [272] 1334; [274] 1190

To ask for an opinion is clearly out of Order, [266] 380

The hon. Gentleman proposes to ask a Question as to the opinion of the Government. That is an irregular form for a Question, [271] 67

Explanation—The right hon. Gentleman (Mr. Forster) appears to have given a full Answer to the Question; but, if he desires to make a further explanation, he can do so, [267] 1000

Mr. Speaker said the right hon. Gentleman was not bound to answer any Question other than that on the Paper, unless he desired to do so, [270] 1591

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

Alteration of Questions.—It is quite impossible for the Speaker to say at once, when Notice is given of a Question, that every phrase of that Notice is in Order. The Questions of the hon. Member (Mr. Onalow) were brought to the Table, and were subjected to revision in accordance with the Rules of the House; and, no doubt, the expression was struck out of the Question on the ground that it was an expression involving matter of controversy, [270] 1409; [271] 937

There is, no doubt, an appeal from the Clerk at the Table to the Chair, [270] 1592
Mr. Speaker refuses to permit a Question, from which a passage had been struck out by his authority, to be put in its unaltered form; and reproves the hon. Member for having, under cover of a Motion for the Adjournment of the House, attacked the authorities of the House, [274] 632, 634

A Question [put to a private Member] which does not refer to a Bill or a Motion before the House, cannot be put, [269] 105, 674; [271] 1620; [272] 724; [274] 1125

The hon. Member has put a Question to me upon a point of Order not now arising, and I must respectfully decline to answer him, [270] 1769; [271] 1620, 1264

Relevancy of Question to one previously asked, [271] 417, 918, 1787

DIVISIONS

Tellers.—If the hon. Member (Mr. Healy) is not prepared to name a second Teller, I must declare that the "Ayes" have it, [268] 1017

PETITIONS

The right hon. Gentleman (the Lord Mayor of Dublin) is entitled to read the prayer of the Petition; but is not entitled to debate the Petition nor the subject of it, [270] 1749

Irregularity in respect of a Petition relating to the *Dover Harbour Bill*, [271] 532

SELECT COMMITTEES

Nomination.—It will be open to the hon. Member to move the omission of the name of the hon. Member proposed; but he could not propose any other name without giving Notice, [274] 284, 285

Instructions.—Notice.—The hon. Member will have to give Notice of the Instructions to the Committee which he desires to move, [269] 218

PUBLIC BILLS

New Clauses.—Notice.—*County Courts (Ireland) Bill*.—Order for Consideration, as amended, read. Mr. Speaker: I observe, on looking at the Amendments on the Paper handed in by the right hon. and learned Gentleman, that there is one new clause, if not more; I must, therefore, point out that these cannot be entertained by the House without Notice, [268] 1876; [269] 1897

Upon Report the House requires that Notice be given of new clauses; but it is open to an hon. Member to move Amendments without Notice, [272] 1110

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

Titles of Bills.—If the House thinks fit to alter the Title of a Bill, it can do so at the last stage, [273] 1272

It is a matter entirely for the determination of the House whether it will have before it two Bills on the same subject, [268] 1656

If a Bill proposed to be introduced is substantially the same as the former Bill upon which his application was refused, it will be irregular to ask leave to introduce such a Bill, [266] 789

The House being engaged in considering Clause 6 (*Bills of Sale Act Amendment Bill*), a Member cannot go back to Clause 5, [268] 125

If a clause be amended, an hon. Member cannot propose the rejection of the clause at that stage, [268] 133

Mr. Speaker has never decided from the Chair that a Bill not having been printed could not be debated. It was very unusual to proceed with a Bill that was not printed, [272] 1020

Lords Amendments.—Mr. Henderson moved that the House disagree with the Lords in this Amendment.—Mr. Speaker said, that the hon. Member could not move, but he could meet the Motion to agree with the Amendment with a negative, [273] 1863

An inadmissible Amendment, [273] 385

Money Bills.—The Standing Order which says that any Bill for taking money from the Imperial Exchequer, or for imposing "any charge upon the people," must be brought in in Committee of the Whole House, does not apply to a local rate for local purposes, [266] 1216, 1217

Bombay Civil Fund Bill.—This Bill having been introduced by a Resolution of the House, Mr. Speaker could not hesitate in thinking that it is a Money Bill, [273] 149

Mr. Warton: This Bill (the *Metropolitan Board of Works (Money) Bill*) was nothing more than the annual budget of the Board of Works; and he wished to take the opinion of Mr. Speaker whether the Board had a right, in this Money Bill, to introduce the 10th clause, which had nothing to do with money.—Mr. Speaker said: It appears to me that the clause in question is, in fact, part of the financial arrangements of the Bill, and I see no reason why the House should not agree to it, if the House thinks proper to do so, [270] 1390

Money Clauses.—Mr. Speaker said, the Amendment appeared to him to involve a possible tax upon the police rates of Ireland, the whole of which were voted by the House; and, therefore, the Amendment could not now be put, [271] 1834, 1843

PRIVATE BILLS

Notice of postponement of Consideration of a Bill should, in courtesy, be given to a Member who has given Notice of objection. The Order Book could not be amended.—*London River-side Fish Market Bill*, [271] 1593, 1594

[*cont.*]

[*cont.*]

SPEAKER, The—cont.

There being the names of the two Secretaries of the Treasury on the back of the Bill, there could be no doubt that the Bill was brought in on the responsibility of Her Majesty's Government.—*Metropolitan Board of Works (Money) Bill*, [271] 672

PRIVILEGE

Interference of Peers in Elections—A point of Privilege should be brought forward as a question of urgency at the earliest possible moment. If an hon. Member allows a considerable time to elapse before bringing the matter under the notice of the House, he loses his claim to deal with the matter as Privilege, [266] 788

Arrest of Members of this House under the Protection of Person and Property (Ireland) Act, 1881, [266] 101

Under the Question of Privilege it is not competent to an hon. Member to raise the question of Irish Administration, or of the manner in which the Land Act is carried out, [266] 103; or the conduct of the Government, [266] 106, 117

Nor of the Release of Michael Davitt, [266] 1846, 1859

Mr. Speaker reports to the House the service of a writ on the Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms in the action of "Bradlaugh v. Erskine." Proceedings thereon, [269] 242

(Mr. E. D. Gray)—Commitment of a Member of this House—The hon. Member is referring to a matter of which the House has no knowledge. If the statement which he has made is correct, no doubt, in the ordinary course, the fact of the imprisonment of a Member of this House will be communicated to the House in the regular way, [273] 1962

Mr. Speaker communicated to the House the Letter of Mr. Justice Lawson, [273] 1978

The Report of the Select Committee—The Motion of the hon. and learned Attorney General would be that the Report do lie on the Table. If the hon. Member desires to move, as an Amendment, "That the Report be referred back to the Select Committee," the question would be argued by the House. The Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule would not apply. If the hon. Member desires to enlarge the Reference he must first ask leave of the House, [274] 1485

New Writs—By Resolution of 10th February, 1882, Notice of Motion for issue of a new Writ, in case of avoidance by reason of bribery, such Notice is to be considered before Orders of the Day and Notices of Motion, [268] 1575

SUPPLY

After the Motion has been decided in the affirmative, the Question, "That £3,631,600 stand part of the said Resolution," no further reduction can be moved, because the House has affirmed that the original sum shall stand part of the Resolution, [268] 162

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—cont.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE (URGENCY)

The New Rules—Mr. Speaker states his view of the operation of the New Rules of Procedure—namely, that they apply only to the particular days on which the Bill with regard to which the Resolution was passed is down for consideration, [271] 1513

The same forms would have to be gone through for the purpose of obtaining Urgency for another Bill as were gone through for the first, [271] 1323

In the event of the Resolution of Urgency being carried, it will become Mr. Speaker's duty, in pursuance of the Resolution, to frame such Rules and Orders as, in his discretion, appear proper under the circumstances of the case, [271] 1391

Mr. Speaker lays upon the Table certain Rules framed by him for the regulation of the Business of the House while the state of Public Business is urgent, [271] 1396

Mr. Speaker states that the House having now passed the Prevention of Crime (Ireland) Bill it had become his duty to declare, in pursuance of the Resolution of Monday last, that the state of Public Business is no longer urgent, [271] 1865

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—THE NEW RULES OF PROCEDURE

Resolution 1 (Putting the Question)—Mr. Speaker explains the manner in which he proposes to put the Questions on the Amendments moved upon the first Resolution, [268] 313; [274] 46, 247, 252

The House, it appears to me, has already settled the question about "the evident sense of the House." If the hon. Member desires me to define "the evident sense of the House," I have to say that that is not my duty; that is a duty which the House itself has already discharged, and I am bound to carry out the orders of the House. With reference to the interpretations to be put on the expression "evident sense of the House," I have no hesitation in stating that, according to my construction of the Resolution, it will be the duty of the Speaker to ascertain, as far as he is able, the evident sense of the House at large, [274] 893

Resolution 2 (Motions for Adjournment before Public Business)—If I understand correctly the construction of the words, the Member who would be called upon to rise in his place would request leave to move the adjournment of the House, and, at the same time, he would state the subject-matter of the proposition he intended to bring under the notice of the House; and then, if 40 Members rose in their place to support it, the Motion would be allowed to proceed, [274] 1447

An hon. Member on moving the adjournment of the House is bound to state to the House the "definite matter of urgent importance," [275] 22

Mr. Farnell asked whether, in view of the fact that nearly 40 Members rose to support his request, the Question should not have

[cont.]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

been submitted to the judgment of the House? Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member had risen in his place at the time and demanded a Division, I should have considered it my duty to put the Question to the House, [275] 409

Mr. Cowen asked whether in the event of 10 Members demanding permission to proceed with a Motion for Adjournment, and a Division taking place in which 40 Members supported the Motion, would the votes of those 40 Members constitute a right to discuss the Question? Mr. Speaker replied, that in that case the matter would be settled by the majority of the House, as shown by the division, [274] 1491

With respect to the Resolution lately passed by the House, I apprehend that all that is done by the Resolution is this—that whereas formerly any hon. Member might, if he pleased, move the adjournment of the House, now that privilege or power is restricted under the conditions laid down by the Resolution, [275] 26

Resolution 3 (Debates on Motions for Adjournment)—Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member for Swansea having called my attention to the Resolution of the House which has just been passed (Motions for Adjournment), I am bound to say that the right hon. and learned Gentleman is obliged to conform to that Resolution, which declares distinctly that when a Motion for the adjournment of the debate is made, the subject of that adjournment should alone be discussed, [274] 1576

I have explained already that an hon. Member is debarred from discussing, on a Motion for Adjournment, a Motion which stands on the Order Book of the House. That is an established and fundamental Rule of debate, [275] 26, 27, 29

I understand the Question of the hon. Member to be—Whether, in the event of a Motion to report Progress being made in Committee of Supply, the Member moving to report Progress would be at liberty to refer to the Vote under discussion? I think he would not be at liberty to do so. Sir H. Drummond Wolff: Would he be at liberty to say anything? Mr. Speaker: He would be quite at liberty to state his reasons for or against reporting Progress, [274] 1500

Resolution 4 (Divisions)—Under circumstances stated, Mr. Speaker said, he apprehended that under Rule 1 there must be a Division. Mr. J. Lowther: May I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to inform the House, what is the meaning of a Division? Mr. Speaker: When the decision of the Speaker or Chairman is challenged, then the Divisions are taken in the usual way, [274] 1571

Adjournment of the House—The New Rules of Procedure—Mr. Speaker states the effect of the Resolution (Resolution 2) passed by the House in reference to moving the Adjournment of the House, [274] 1936, 1937

[*cont.*]

SPEAKER, The—*cont.*

Resolution 5 (Irrelevance or Repetition)—Amendments which are in the nature of substantive Motions, and not of Amendments relating to the Resolution before the House, cannot be put, [274] 1596

Resolution 9 (Order in Debate)—Suspension of Members—Lord Randolph Churchill having moved an Amendment to the Resolution—in reference to the suspension of Members—to insert, “after the nature of the offence and the grounds upon which such Member has been named shall have been stated and entered upon the Journals of the House,” and discussion arising as to the importance of accuracy in framing the Records of the House, under the superintendence of the Speaker—Lord Randolph Churchill asked the Speaker whether he would direct the Officers of the House to record more fully the nature of the offences committed when Members were suspended? Mr. Speaker: The entries on the Journals have hitherto been made according to precedent; but, as my attention has been called to the matter, I will consider the desirability of the change suggested; but I will enter into no engagement, [274] 1818

I apprehend that the suspension of a Member from the service of the House would also include his suspension from service on Committee, [274] 1857

Resolution 11 (Consideration of a Bill as amended)—Mr. Dodson said, that beyond all doubt, according to the law of the House, a Bill might be committed and re-committed any number of times; and that it was the distinct intention of the Government, and the true interpretation of the present Rule, that a Member should be at liberty to move to re-commit a Bill as often as he chose. Mr. Speaker said, the law of the House on this point had been correctly laid down by the right hon. Gentleman the President of the Local Government Board, [275] 515

Notice of a Resolution—The Amendment of the hon. Member for Nottingham (Mr. C. Seely) raises the important question of an Official Report of the proceedings of the House; but it cannot be put, as it is not germane to the Resolution under consideration, [274] 892

A question arising having reference to a communication alleged to have passed between the Chairman of Committees, a Clerk at the Table, and Major Nolan, Mr. Speaker interposed, [274] 1863

MISCELLANEOUS

274] First Rule (Putting the Question), 110, 120, 224, 246, 247, 252, 287, 288, 329, 404, 411, 451, 770, 787, 789, 807, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 900, 1027; Second Rule (Motions for Adjournment before Public Business), 1351, 1360, 1377, 1380, 1440, 1447, 1448, 1450, 1461, 1462, 1491; Third Rule (Debates on Motions for Adjournment), 1495, 1496, 1499, 1500, 1524; Fourth Rule (Divisions), 1562, 1566, 1569, 1570,

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- 274] 1571, 1573, 1575, 1576, 1578, 1585; Fifth Rule (Irrelevance or Repetition), 1596, 1605, 1625, 1626; Sixth Rule (Postponement of Preamble), 1648; Eighth Rule (Half-past Twelve o'clock Rule), 1680, 1742, 1751; Ninth Rule (Order in Debate), 1755, 1776, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1787, 1810, 1818, 1824, 1857, 1865, 1803, 1896; Tenth Rule (Debates on Motions for Adjournment), 2005

Interruption of Business—The hon. Gentleman (Mr. Callan) is really trifling with the House. If an hon. Gentleman thinks it right to put a Question he is entitled to do so; and if he thinks it right further to interrupt the Business of the House by moving the adjournment he is also within his limits. But he must confine himself to the Question, [273] 1840

New Members—The Parliamentary Oath—Sir Wilfrid Lawson having asked whether it would be competent to an hon. Member to make a Motion dealing with the return of a newly-elected Member before he came to the Table to take the Oath?—Mr. Speaker said, that no such Motion would be justified except on grounds public or notorious, or within the cognizance of the House; otherwise it would be simply vexatious, [267] 441

Questions—The Member for Northampton (Mr. Labouchere) having stated in a Question that a gentleman who had been acquitted of bribery by a jury was guilty of a direct act of bribery—Mr. Speaker said, the hon. Member had put the Question on his own responsibility, and declined to interfere, [267] 1001

Rules of Debate—Public Documents—An hon. Member having given Notice to call attention to a Treaty, which he declared to have been signed but which had not yet been laid upon the Table—Mr. Speaker said, the course proposed by the hon. Member was very unusual; but if he thought it right to go on he was in Order, [267] 1028

The Door Keeper—Mr. Dillon (one of the suspended Members), having stated that on coming down to the House on Saturday last, to take his seat in that House, he was stopped by the Door Keeper and told that he could not enter. Mr. Speaker said, the Door Keeper acted under the authority of the Serjeant-at-Arms, and he was strictly within his right. There could be no question as to the proper conduct of the Officer of the House. The House had ordered a certain number of Members to be suspended by Name, and it was the clear duty of the Serjeant-at-Arms to take care that those Members did not return to the House, [271] 1267

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(*The Lord Chancellor*)

- 1. Presented; read 1st April 21, [268] 1089 (No. 64)
- Read 2nd, and referred to a Select Committee April 25, 1871
- And, on May 5, the Lords following were named of the Committee:—Ld. Chancellor, L. Waldegrave, E. Beauchamp, V. Sherbrooke, L. Thurlow, L. Brodrick, L. Rosebery, L. Aberdare, and L. Bramwell
- Report of Select Comm. * June 22 [No. 155]

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c. Brought from the Lords July 14

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Question, Mr. Tottenham; Answer, Mr. Courtney Nov 9, [274] 1109

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Resolved, That this House will, upon Monday next, resolve itself into a Committee to consider of the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty Feb 17

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS

Army Estimates

Question, Colonel Alexander; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Mar 21, [267] 1441
Vote for the Autumn Manœuvres, Questions, Mr. Salt, Mr. Rylands, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answers, Mr. Childers July 13, [272] 278
Vote 23—Pensions, Question, Colonel Barne; Answer, Mr. Childers April 18, [268] 876
Supplementary, Question, Sir Stafford Northcote; Answer, Mr. Childers Feb 21, [266] 1232

Money Grants to Sir Garnet Wolseley and Sir Beauchamp Seymour, Questions, Sir Stafford Northcote, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Sir Walter B. Barttelot; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Nov 2, [274] 662

Navy Estimates, Question, Mr. W. H. Smith; Answer, Mr. Gladstone Feb 21, [266] 1232; Questions, Mr. Gorst, Mr. O'Donnell; Answers, Mr. Gladstone Mar 14, [267] 890; Questions, Mr. Puleston; Answers, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman May 15, [269] 605;—**Votes 6 and 10—The Shipbuilding Policy of the Government**, Observations, Sir John Hay; short debate thereon June 23, [271] 204

The Civil Service Estimates, Question, Mr. Cochrane-Patrick; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Mar 16, [267] 1018

The Estimates—Extra Expenditure (Ireland), Question, Mr. E. Stanhope; Answer, The Chancellor of the Exchequer Nov 10, [274] 1197

SUPPLY—cont.

The Supplementary Estimates, Class VII., Vote 2—Miscellaneous Expenses, &c., Question, Mr. W. H. James; Answer, Lord Frederick Cavendish Mar 2, [266] 1933
Votes on Account, Observations, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson; Reply, Mr. Gladstone; short debate thereon June 26, [271] 471

SUPPLY

266] Considered in Committee Feb 23, 1411—CIVIL SERVICES AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1881-2, £533,284—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE—CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART—CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES—CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES—CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS—REVENUE DEPARTMENTS
Resolutions reported Feb 24

Considered in Committee Feb 24, 1546—CIVIL SERVICES AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1881-2—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE—CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES
Resolutions reported Feb 27

267] Considered in Committee Mar 3, 71—CIVIL SERVICES AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1881-2—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE—CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART—CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES—CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS—POST OFFICE—POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS
Resolutions reported Mar 6

Resolutions 2 to 8 agreed to
Resolution 1 postponed
Postponed Resolution further considered, and, after debate, agreed to Mar 12, 657

Considered in Committee Mar 12, 634—CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1881-2—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE—CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART—NAVY ESTIMATES

Resolutions reported Mar 15

Considered in Committee Mar 13, 827—ARMY ESTIMATES—Departmental Statement of the Secretary of State for War (*Mr. Childers*)
Resolutions reported Mar 14

Considered in Committee Mar 16, 1085—NAVY ESTIMATES—Departmental Statement of the Secretary to the Admiralty (*Mr. Trevelyan*)
Resolutions reported Mar 17

Considered in Committee Mar 17, 1230—CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1881-2—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE—CIVIL SERVICES (EXCESSSES) £19,830 14s. 10d.
Resolutions reported, and, after short debate, agreed to Mar 20, 1398

Considered in Committee Mar 24, 1917—CIVIL SERVICES AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS
£3,631,600 on Account

268] Resolution reported Mar 28, 152
Said Resolution read a second time
Amend. to leave out "£3,631,600," and insert "£3,630,100" (*Mr. Mac Iver*) v.; Question proposed, "That '£3,631,600' stand part of

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SUPPLY—cont.

- the said Resolution;" after short debate, Question put, and agreed to; Resolution agreed to
- . Considered in Committee April 3, 648—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART
Resolutions reported April 20
 - . Considered in Committee April 17, 802—ARMY ESTIMATES, Vote 10 (Provisions, Forage, &c.)
Resolution reported April 19
 - . Considered in Committee April 21, 1159—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS
Resolutions reported April 24
 - 269] Considered in Committee May 12, 600—ARMY ESTIMATES, Votes 2 to 6
Resolutions reported May 15
 - . Considered in Committee May 19, 1180—CIVIL SERVICES AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS—£2,137,750, further on account
Resolution reported May 22, 1381
Resolution brought up, and, after debate, agreed to
 - 271] Considered in Committee June 26, 475—NAVY ESTIMATES—£996,091, Victuals and Clothing for Seamen and Marines; after long debate, Question put, and agreed to;—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—£1,617,250, further on Account; after debate, Question put, and agreed to, 515
Resolutions reported June 27
- Forces in the Mediterranean (Vote of Credit)*
Notice of Motion, Mr. Gladstone; Questions: Mr. Bourke, Mr. Joseph Cowen; Answers: Sir Charles W. Dilke, Mr. Gladstone July 20.
[272] 1072
- 272] Considered in Committee July 24, 1574—FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (VOTE OF CREDIT)
Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £2,300,000, be granted to Her Majesty, beyond the ordinary Grants of Parliament, towards defraying the Expenses which may be incurred during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1883, in strengthening Her Majesty's Forces in the Mediterranean" (Mr. Gladstone); Motion withdrawn
 - . Considered in Committee July 24, 1619—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS—Votes 4 to 23
Resolutions reported July 25
 - Considered in Committee July 25, 1691—FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (VOTE OF CREDIT) [First Night]
 - (1.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a sum, not exceeding £2,300,000, be granted to Her Majesty, beyond the ordinary Grants of Parliament, towards defraying the Expenses which may be incurred during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1883, in strengthening Her Majesty's Forces in the Mediterranean" (Mr. Gladstone); after long time spent therein, Committee—R.F.
 - . Considered in Committee July 26, 1820—FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (VOTE OF CREDIT) [Second Night]; after long time spent therein, Committee—R.F.

SUPPLY—cont.

- Considered in Committee July 27, 1992—FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (VOTE OF CREDIT) [Third Night]
After long time spent therein, Moved, "That the Chairman do report Progress, and ask leave to sit again" (Mr. O'Donnell)
Question put, and negatived; Original Question put; A. 275, N. 19; M. 256
- 272] Div. List, A. and N., 2108
- . Considered in Committee July 27, 2108—ARMY SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, VOTE A
(2.) Motion made, and Question proposed, "That a number of Men, not exceeding 10,000, all ranks, in addition to those already voted, be maintained for the Service of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, at home and abroad, excluding Her Majesty's Indian Possessions, during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1883" (Sir Arthur Hayter); after short debate, Motion agreed to
Resolutions reported July 28
- 273] Considered in Committee July 28, 97—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 1 to 24
Resolutions reported July 31, 328
Resolutions 1 to 7, 9 to 15, 17 to 24, inclusive, agreed to
Resolution 8 read a second time; Moved, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution;" after short debate, Question put; A. 43, N. 19; M. 24 (D. L. 308)
Resolution 16 read a second time; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
- . Considered in Committee July 31, 311—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 25 to 33
Resolutions reported Aug 1, 499
Resolutions 1 to 5, 7 to 9, inclusive, agreed to
Resolution 6; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
- . Considered in Committee Aug 1, 394—NAVY ESTIMATES, Votes 3 to 17—GREENWICH HOSPITAL AND SCHOOL
Resolutions reported and agreed to Aug 2, 562
- . Considered in Committee Aug 3, 650—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 34 to 36
Resolutions reported Aug 4
- . Considered in Committee Aug 4, 792—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS, Votes 37 to 41—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 1 to 21 and 23
Resolutions reported and, after short debate, agreed to Aug 5, 926
- Considered in Committee Aug 7, 983—ARMY ESTIMATES, Votes 7 to 9, and 11 to 25—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 22, 24 to 29, 35 and 36
Resolutions reported Aug 8

[cont.]

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SUPPLY—cont.

273] Considered in Committee Aug 8, 1187—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 30
Resolution reported Aug 9
Considered in Committee Aug 10, 1414—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE, Votes 31 to 34—CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART, Votes 2 to 8a, and 10 to 17—CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES, Votes 1 to 8—CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES, Votes 1 to 13
Resolutions reported Aug 11
Considered in Committee Aug 11, 1533—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES—CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS, Votes 1 and 2—REVENUE

SUPPLY—cont.

DEPARTMENTS, Votes 1 to 5—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES (SUPPLEMENTARY)—CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS, Votes 3, 15, 19, 19a, and 23—CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES
273] Resolutions reported Aug 12, 1627
Resolutions 1 to 4, 6 and 7, agreed to
Resolution 5, £3,043,300, Salaries and Expenses of the Post Office Services; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
Resolution 8, £3,000, Royal Parks and Pleasure Gardens, 1637; after short debate, Resolution agreed to
Remaining Resolutions agreed to

SUMMARY.

APPROPRIATION OF GRANTS.	£	s.	d.
1881-82.			
Deficiencies, 1880-81	19,830	14	10
Supplementary, 1881-82	533,284	0	0
Navy (Supplementary), 1881-82	50,000	0	0
Zulu &c. War, 1881-82	135,000	0	0
	<u>£738,114</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>10</u>

1882-3

NAVY SERVICES	10,483,901	0	0
ARMY SERVICES	15,458,100	0	0
ARMY (INDIAN HOME CHARGES)	1,100,000	0	0
CIVIL SERVICES—viz.:			
I. Public Works and £			
Buildings	1,870,995		
II. Salaries, &c. Civil			
Departments	2,387,286		
III. Law and Justice	6,648,575		
IV. Education, Sci-			
ence, and Art	4,581,034		
V. Foreign and Colo-			
nial Services	646,189		
VI. Non - Effective,			
&c. Services	1,180,870		
VII. Miscellaneous	35,152		
	<u>17,350,051</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
REVENUE DEPARTMENTS, &c.	8,790,089	0	0
ADVANCES FOR GREENWICH HOS-			
PITAL AND SCHOOL	155,457	0	0
FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN			
(VOTE OF CREDIT)	2,300,000	0	0
AFGHAN WAR (GRANT IN AID)	500,000	0	0
Total	<u>£56,875,712</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>10</u>

SUMMARY.

WAYS AND MEANS.

GRANTS OUT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FUND.

For the service of the years	£	s.	d.
ending 31st March 1881			
and 1882; viz.			
Under Act 45 Vic. cap. 1	313,270	0	0
Under Act 45 Vic. cap. 4	424,844	14	10
For the service of the year			
ending 31st March 1883:—			
Under Act 45 Vict. c. 4	6,793,493	0	0
Under Act 45 Vict. c. 8	9,282,435	0	0
Under Act 45 & 46 Vict. c. 28	5,703,891	0	0
Under Appropriation Act	34,357,774	0	0

Total ... £56,875,712 14 10

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Supply—cont.

DEFICIENCIES, 1881.

	Total of Vote.	
£ s. d.		
COMMITTEE Mar 17—REPORT Mar 20		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £19,830 14s. 10d., be granted to make good Deficiencies, &c., as follows:—		
CIVIL SERVICES, viz.,		
CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.		
Board of Trade	654 5 2	
The Mint, including Coinage ...	334 13 7	
Fishery Board, Scotland	228 15 3	
CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.		
Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice	293 9 1	
County Courts	7,250 14 6	
Reformatory and Industrial Schools, Great Britain	28 15 3	
Constabulary of Ireland	5,671 0 9	
CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART.		
Science and Art Department of the United Kingdom	240 9 2	
CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES.		
Consular Services	4,641 14 10	
Suez Canal (British Directors) ...	31 7 4	
Suppression of the Slave Trade ...	457 9 11	
Moved to report Progress (<i>Mr. Onslow</i>); after short debate, original Motion put, and agreed to [267] 1242		
Total ...	19,830 14 10	

SUPPLEMENTARY, 1881-82.

COMMITTEE Feb 23—REPORT Feb 24

CIVIL SERVICES.

CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

	Total of Vote.	
£ s. d.		
Royal Palaces ... [266] 1411	2,094	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Royal Parks ... [266] 1414	800	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Public Buildings, Great Britain ...	1,800	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [266] 1415		
Sheriff Court Houses, Scotland ...	1,000	
Harbours, &c. under the Board of Trade ... [266] 1415	1,096	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Rates on Government Property ..	527	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [266] 1417		
<i>Shannon Navigation</i> [266] 1417	3,000	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		

Supply—cont.

Total of
Vote.

CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.

Foreign Office	2,300	
Colonial Office ... [266] 1418	6,300	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Civil Service Commission	2,300	
Friendly Societies Registry	215	
Local Government Board, England ...	5,140	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [266] 1418		
Stationery and Printing [266] 1419	19,600	
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
Office of Works and Public Buildings	850	
After short debate, Vote agreed to [266] 1422		
Fishery Board, Scotland	286	
<i>Ireland</i>		
Household of Lord Lieutenant		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £20, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, A. 104, N. 12; M. 92; Vote agreed to [266] 1425	20	
Chief Secretary's Offices		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £900, be granted, &c.;" after debate, A. 224, N. 14; M. 210; Vote agreed to [266] 1433	900	
Local Government Board		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £2,410, be granted, &c.;" after debate, Vote agreed to [266] 1459	2,410	
Public Works Office		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £1,300, be granted, &c.;"		
Moved to report Progress (<i>Mr. O'Donnell</i>); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Motion withdrawn [266] 1481		
<i>Feb 24</i> , Question again proposed; after debate, A. 126, N. 11; M. 115; Vote agreed to [266] 1648	1,300	
<i>Report Feb 27</i>		

COMMITTEE Feb 23

CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

Law Charges, England		
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £18,000, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, Motion withdrawn [266] 1482		
<i>Feb 24</i> —after short debate, Vote agreed to [266] 1668	18,000	
<i>Report Feb 27</i>		
COMMITTEE Feb 23—REPORT Feb 24		
Chancery Division, High Court of Justice		
County Courts	3,825	
Police Courts, London and Sheerness	16,087	
Police, Counties and Boroughs, Great Britain	360	
Courts of Law and Justice, Scotland	2,000	
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £1,573, be granted,		

[cont.]

[cont.]

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<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Total of Vote. £	<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Total of Vote. £
&c.;" after short debate, A. 103, N. 36; M. 67; Vote agreed to [266] 1483	1,573	COMMITTEE Mar 3—REPORT Mar 6	
Register House Departments, Edin- burgh	470	<i>Ireland</i>	
COMMITTEE Feb 24—REPORT Feb 27 <i>Ireland</i>		Queen's University [267] 124	473
Law Charges and Criminal Prosecu- tions		After short debate, Vote agreed to	
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £19,000, be granted, &c."		COMMITTEE Mar 10—REPORT Mar 13	
Moved to report Progress (<i>Mr.</i> <i>Gray</i>); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [266] 1667	19,000	Royal University, Ireland ...	636
Feb 27—Resolutions [<i>Feb</i> 24] re- ported, [266] 1798; Res. 1 (Con- stabulary), after short debate, agreed to; Res. 4 (Law Charges, &c.), after short debate, A. 108, N. 11; M. 97		COMMITTEE Feb 23—REPORT Feb 27	
COMMITTEE Mar 3—REPORT Mar 10		CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES.	
Irish Land Commission		Diplomatic Services	
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £34,919, be granted, &c."		Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £20,860, be granted, &c."	
After long debate, Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £33,919, &c." (<i>Mr. Seaton</i>); A. 16, N. 130; M. 115; original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [267] 71	34,919	Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £18,160, &c." (<i>Mr.</i> <i>Labouchere</i>); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Motion withdrawn [266] 1484	
Mar 6—Resolutions [<i>Mar</i> 3] re- ported; Res. 1 (Irish Land Com- mission) postponed; others agreed to, after debate [267] 286		Comm. Feb 24—Question again pro- posed; Moved, "That a Supple- mentary sum, not exceeding £18,160, &c." (<i>Mr. Labouchere</i>); after short debate, A. 34, N. 77; M. 43; original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [266] 1681	20,860
Mar 10—Postponed Res. considered, and, after debate, agreed to [267] 687		Consular Services	12,794
COMMITTEE Mar 10—		COMMITTEE Mar 3—REPORT Mar 6	
County Court Officers, &c.		Grants in Aid of certain Colonies ...	1,500
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £7,772, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, Motion withdrawn [267] 684		Transvaal and Zululand	
Comm. Mar 17—Motion again pro- posed; after short debate, A. 124, N. 6; M. 118; Vote agreed to [267] 1230		Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £4,356, be granted, &c."	
Mar 20 Res. reported, and, after short debate, agreed to [267] 1238	7,772	Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £3,680, &c." (<i>Mr.</i> <i>O'Donnell</i>); after short debate, Mo- tion withdrawn; original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [267] 126	4,356
COMMITTEE Feb 24—REPORT Feb 27		COMMITTEE Feb 23—REPORT Feb 24	
Constabulary		Subsidies to Telegraph Companies ...	5,526
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £116,547, be granted, &c.;" after long debate, A. 183, N. 18; M. 165; Vote agreed to [266] 1546	116,547	Treasury Chest ... [266] 1487	9,333
COMMITTEE Feb 23—REPORT Feb 24		After short debate, Vote agreed to	
CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART.		CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES.	
Science and Art Department ...	7,400	Superannuations and Retired Allow- ances	3,000
London University	40	Pauper Lunatics, Scotland ...	268
Transit of Venus, 1882	275	Miscellaneous, Charitable, and other Allowances, Great Britain ...	350
		Commutation of Annuities ...	624
		CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.	
		Miscellaneous Expenses	
		Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £4,145, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, Motion withdrawn [266] 1488	
		Comm. Mar 3, Question again pro- posed; Moved, "That a Supplemen- tary sum, not exceeding £950, be granted, &c." (<i>Mr. Labouchere</i>); after short debate, A. 29, N. 90; M. 61; original Question put, and agreed to [267] 129	4,145
		Report Mar 6	

[cont,

[cont.

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Supply—cont.	Total of Vote.	Supply—cont.	Total of Vote.
COMMITTEE Mar 3—REPORT Mar 6		NAVY SUPPLEMENTARY, 1881-82.	£
Repayments to the Civil Contingencies Fund	£	COMMITTEE Mar 10—REPORT Mar 13	
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £8,214, be granted, &c."		Vote 17. Conveyance of troops (Army Department)	50,000
Moved, "That item £245, fees (D. of Cambridge), be omitted, &c." (Mr. Broadhurst); after short debate, Motion negatived		After short debate, Vote agreed to [267] 136	
Original Question again proposed; Moved, "That item £160 (Mr. J. H. L. Rogers) be omitted, &c." (Mr. Sexton); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Question put, and agreed; Vote agreed to [267] 136	6,214	ZULU, &c., WARS, 1881-82.	£
COMMITTEE Feb 23—REPORT Feb 26		COMMITTEE Mar 17—REPORT Mar 20	
Compensation to Edmund Galley		For defraying Expenditure connected with the Zulu and other Wars in South Africa, prior to the late hostilities in the Transvaal	135,000
After short debate, Vote agreed to [266] 1489	1,000	After short debate, Vote agreed to [267] 1238	
Total for Civil Services ...	£351,284	NAVY ESTIMATES, 1882-83.	
REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.		COMMITTEE Mar 16—REPORT Mar 17	
COMMITTEE Feb 23—REPORT Feb 24		Departmental Statement of the Secretary to the Admiralty (Mr. Trevelyan) in moving the first Vote—	Numbers
Customs ... [266] 1489		"That 57,500 Men and Boys be employed for the Sea and Coastguard Service for the year ending the 31st day of March, 1883, including 12,400 Royal Marines"	
After short debate, Vote agreed to	22,000	After debate, Moved, "That the Chairman do report Progress" (Sir H. D. Wolff); Motion withdrawn; Vote agreed to [267] 1085	57,500
Post Office			Total of Vote. £
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £80,000, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, Motion withdrawn [266] 1490		(1.) Wages to Seamen and Marines	2,631,408
Comm. Mar 3—Question again proposed; after debate, Vote agreed to Report Mar 6 [267] 138	80,000	COMMITTEE June 26—REPORT June 27	
COMMITTEE Mar 3—REPORT Mar 6		(2.) Victuals and Clothing for ditto	996,091
Post Office Telegraphs		After long debate, Vote agreed to [271] 475	
Moved, "That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £80,000, be granted, &c."		COMMITTEE Aug 1—REPORT Aug 2	
Moved to report Progress (Mr. Warton); Question put, and negatived		(3.) Admiralty Office ...	181,089
Original Question again proposed; Moved, "That the Chairman, &c." (Mr. Redmond); after short debate, A. 8, N. 74; M. 66		(4.) Coast Guard Service, Royal Naval Reserves, &c. [273] 394	195,416
Original Question again proposed; Moved to report Progress (Mr. J. M'Carthy); after short debate, Question put, and negatived; original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [267] 158	80,000	After short debate, Vote agreed to	
Total for Revenue Departments ...	£182,000	(5.) Scientific Branch [273] 401	113,691
Grand Total ...	£533,284	After short debate, Vote agreed to	
		(6.) Dockyards and Naval Yards at Home and Abroad [273] 409	1,447,258
		After long debate, Vote agreed to	
		(7.) Victualling Yards at Home and Abroad ...	70,787
		(8.) Medical Establishments at Home and Abroad ...	64,465
		(9.) Marine Divisions ...	22,016
		(10.) Naval Stores for the Building, Repair, and Outfit of the Fleet and Coast Guard, Machinery and Ships built by Contract, &c.:	
		Section I. Naval Stores ...	1,122,500
		After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 485	

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<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Total of Vote.
Section II. Machinery and Ships built by Contract, &c.	767,153
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 486	
(11.) New Works, Buildings, Yard Machinery, and Repairs [273] 486	479,603
After short debate, Vote agreed to	
(12.) Medicines and Medical Stores ...	69,375
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £69,375, be granted, &c."	
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £61,475, &c." (<i>Mr. Thomasson</i>); after short debate, A. 7, N. 62; M. 55; Vote agreed to [273] 488	
(13.) Martial Law, &c. [273] 490	9,973
After short debate, Vote agreed to	
(14.) Miscellaneous Services ...	118,936
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £118,936, be granted, &c."	
Moved [to report Progress; after short debate, Motion withdrawn; Vote agreed to [273] 490	
Total for the Effective Service ...	8,289,851
(15.) Half Pay, Reserved Half Pay, and Retired Pay to Officers of the Navy and Marines ...	873,688
(16.) Military and Civil Pensions and Allowances:	
Section I. Military Pensions and Allowances [273] 497	866,127
After short debate, Vote agreed to	
Section II. Civil Pensions and Allowances ...	330,535
Total for the Naval Service ...	10,360,201
(17.) Army Department (Conveyance of Troops) [273] 497	123,700
After short debate, Vote agreed to Resolutions reported and agreed to, after short debate [273] 562	
Total NAVY ESTIMATES ...	£10,483,901

ARMY ESTIMATES, 1882-83.

COMMITTEE *Mar 13*—REPORT *Mar 16*

Departmental Statement of the Secretary of State for War (*Mr. Childers*) in moving the Army Estimates

Moved, "That a number of Land Forces not exceeding 132,905, all ranks, be maintained for the Service, &c. during the year ending on the 31st day of March 1883"

After debate, Moved to report Progress (*Mr. Warton*); after further debate, Question put, and negative; Vote agreed to [267] 827

NUMBERS.

	<i>Numbers</i>
(A.) Total number of Men on the Home and Colonial Establishments of the Army, exclusive of those serving in India ...	132,905

[cont.]

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Total of Vote.
I.—REGULAR FORCES.	£
(1.) Pay of the General Staff, Regimental Pay and Allowances, and other Charges	
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £4,162,000, be granted, &c."	
Moved to report Progress (<i>Viscount Folkestone</i>); A. 33, N. 69; M. 36	
Original Question again proposed; Moved, "That the Chairman, &c." (<i>Colonel Alexander</i>); A. 31, N. 69; M. 38	
Original Question again proposed; after short debate, Motion withdrawn	
Original Question again proposed; Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £3,162,000, &c." (<i>Mr. O'Donnell</i>); A. 9, N. 72; M. 63; Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [267] 860	4,162,000

COMMITTEE *May 12*—REPORT *May 15*

(2.) Divine Service ...	53,800
(3.) Administration of Military Law	37,200
After short debate, Vote agreed to [269] 600	
(4.) Medical Establishments and Services ...	300,800
After short debate, Vote agreed to	

II.—AUXILIARY AND RESERVE FORCES.

(5.) Militia Pay and Allowances	
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £492,000, be granted, &c.;" after debate, Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [269] 607	492,000
(6.) Yeomanry Cavalry Pay and Allowances ...	69,000
After short debate, Vote agreed to	

COMMITTEE *Aug 7*—REPORT *Aug 8*

(7.) Volunteer Corps Pay and Allowances ...	562,700
(8.) Army Reserve Force Pay and Allowances (including Enrolled Pensioners) ...	229,500
After long debate, Vote agreed to	

III.—COMMISSARIAT AND ORDNANCE STORE ESTABLISHMENTS, &c.

(9.) Commissariat, Transport, and Ordnance Store Establishments, Wages, &c. ...	394,300
After short debate, Vote agreed to	

COMMITTEE *April 17*—REPORT *April 19*

(10.) Provisions, Forage, Fuel, Transport, and other Services ...	2,966,000
After long debate, Vote agreed to [268] 802	

COMMITTEE *Aug 7*—REPORT *Aug 8*

(11.) Clothing Establishments, Services, and Supplies [273] 1019	734,000
After short debate, Vote agreed to	

[cont.]

SUP SUP { GENERAL INDEX } SUP SUP
266—267—268—269—270—271—272—273—274—275.

Supply—cont.	Total of Vote.
(12.) Supply, Manufacture, and Repair of Warlike and other Stores ...	£ 1,289,500
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1020	

IV.—WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

(13.) Superintending Establishment of, and Expenditure for, Works, Build- ings, and Repairs, at Home and Abroad ...	[273] 1037	715,700
After short debate, Vote agreed to		

V.—VARIOUS SERVICES.

(14.) Establishments for Military Edu- cation ...	[273] 1037	127,500
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
(15.) Miscellaneous Effective Services		36,400
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1038		
(16.) Salaries and Miscellaneous Charges of the War Office ...		238,300
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1038		
Total Effective Services		£12,408,600

VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE SERVICES.

(17.) Rewards for Distinguished Ser- vices, &c. ...	[273] 1041	26,700
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
(18.) Half-Pay ...	[273] 1042	95,000
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
(19.) Retired Pay, Pensions, and Gra- tuities, including Payments allowed by Army Purchase Commissioners		1,116,100
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1042		
(20.) Widows' Pensions and Compas- sionate Allowances ...		123,200
(21.) Pensions for Wounds ...		15,800
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1043		
(22.) Chelsea and Kilmainham Hos- pitals (In-Pensions) ...	[273] 1043	33,800
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
(23.) Out-Pensions ...	[273] 1044	1,389,700
After short debate, Vote agreed to		
(24.) Superannuation Allowances ...		197,700
(25.) Militia, Yeomanry Cavalry, and Volunteer Corps ...		51,800
Losses Written off as Irre- coverable, &c. ...		—

Total Non-Effective Services £3,049,500

Total Effective and Non-Effective
Services ... £15,458,100

SUPPLEMENTARY, 1882-3

COMMITTEE July 27—REPORT July 28	Numbers.
(A.) Numbers in addition to the Numbers already voted ...	10,000
After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 2108	

[cont.]

Supply—cont.	Total of Vote.
COMMITTEE Aug 7—REPORT Aug 8	£
ARMY (INDIAN HOME CHARGES) ...	1,100,000
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1044	

CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES, 1882-83.

CLASS I.—PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

GREAT BRITAIN:	Vote to complete.	Total Vote for 1882-83.
COMMITTEE April 21— REPORT April 24		
(1.) Royal Palaces		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [268] 1159	£ 33,361	£ 40,361
(2.) Marlborough House	2,178	2,878
(3.) Royal Parks and Pleasure Grounds		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £90,921, be granted, &c."		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £73,241, &c." (Mr. Labouchere); after debate, A. 44, N. 139; M. 95		
Original Question again proposed; Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £90,000, &c." (Mr. Healy); after short debate, Mo- tion withdrawn		
Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [268] 1159	90,921	113,921
(4.) Houses of Parliament		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £31,110, be granted, &c." — Comm.—R.F.		
[268] 1182		
Comm. July 24—After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1619	23,110	37,110
Rep. July 25		
COMMITTEE July 24— REPORT July 25		
(4a) Monument to Earl of Beaconsfield (Re- Vote)		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1627	550	1,050
(5.) Public Buildings		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £88,064, be granted, &c."		
After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £85,274, &c." (Mr. Labouchere); after further short de- bate, A. 45, N. 131; M. 86; Vote agreed to [272] 1627	88,064	148,064

[cont.]

SUP SUP { SESSION 1882 } SUP SUP
266—267—268—269—270—271—272—273—274—275.

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete.	Total Vote for 1882-83.	<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete.	Total Vote for 1882-83.
(6.) Furniture of Public Offices After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1634	12,860	17,360	COMMITTEE July 24— REPORT July 25	£	£
(7.) Revenue Depart- ment Buildings After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1635	177,011	257,011	(20.) Science and Art Buildings (Dublin) Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £6,800, be granted, &c."		
(8.) County Court Build- ings	34,480	50,480	Moved to report Pro- gress; after short de- bate, Motion with- drawn; Vote agreed to [272] 1654	6,800	10,000
(9.) Metropolitan Police Courts Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £3,098, be granted, &c.;" after short debate, A. 137, N. 43; M. 94; Vote agreed to [272] 1637	3,098	6,598	(21.) Shannon Navigation After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1656	7,512	10,512
(10.) Sheriff Court Houses, Scotland	4,195	7,195	ABROAD:		
(11.) New Courts of Jus- tice, &c. After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1639	67,200	117,200	(22.) Lighthouses Abroad	6,650	10,650
(12.) Surveys of the United Kingdom After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1640	135,000	215,000	(23.) Diplomatic and Con- sular Buildings After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1659	17,265	31,765
(13.) Science and Art De- partment Buildings ...	17,599	25,099	Total of Votes Class I. ...	£1,870,995	
(14.) British Museum Buildings After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1644	3,047	7,247	SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above Sum)		
(15.) Natural History Mu- seum After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1645	29,858	70,858	COMMITTEE Aug 11—REPORT Aug 12	£	
(16.) Harbours, &c. under Board of Trade After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1646	4,695	8,695	(3.) Royal Parks and Pleasure Grounds		3,000
(17.) Rates on Government Property (Great Bri- tain and Ireland) ...	81,088	201,088	After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1562		
(18.) Metropolitan Fire Brigade ...	5,000	10,000	(15.) Natural History Museum ...		25,000
COMMITTEE Aug 11— REPORT Aug 12			(18A.) Disturnpiked Roads ...		250,000
(18A.) Disturnpiked and Main Roads After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1575		250,000	(19.) Public Buildings, Ireland ...		3,645
COMMITTEE July 24— REPORT July 25			(19A.) Royal University, Ireland (Buildings) ...		27,000
IRELAND:			(23.) Diplomatic and Consular Build- ings ...	[273] 1567	6,000
(19.) Public Buildings After short debate, Vote agreed to [272] 1652	130,208	193,853	After short debate, A. 49, N. 25; M. 24		
COMMITTEE Aug 11 REPORT Aug 12			CLASS II.—SALARIES AND EXPENSES OF CIVIL DEPARTMENTS.		
(19A.) Royal University of Ireland (Buildings)		27,000	ENGLAND:	Vote to Complete.	Total Vote for 1882-83.
[cont.]			COMMITTEE July 28— REPORT July 31		
			(1.) House of Lords Offices ...	£	£
			(2.) House of Commons Offices ...	29,105	43,105
			(3.) Treasury, including Parliamentary Counsel	36,461	50,461
			(4.) Home Office and Subordinate Depart- ments ...	35,653	56,653
			(5.) Foreign Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 97	62,234	92,234
			(6.) Colonial Office ...	46,847	70,847
			(7.) Privy Council Office and Subordinate De- partments ...	25,220	39,720
				20,438	30,438
					[cont.]

SUP SUP { GENERAL INDEX } SUP SUP

266—267—268—269—270—271—272—273—274—275.

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £	<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(8.) Privy Seal Office ...	1,855	2,855	(20.) Patent Office		
(9.) Board of Trade and Subordinate Depart- ments			After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 144	20,849	30,849
After debate, Vote agreed to [273] 99	116,270	170,270	(21.) Paymaster General's Office ...	17,020	26,126
(10.) Charity Commission (including Endowed Schools Department)			(22.) Public Works Loan Commission		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 110	19,496	30,496	After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 144	5,768	9,268
(11.) Civil Service Com- mission ...	18,738	31,738	(23.) Record Office		
(12.) Copyhold, Inclosure, and Tithe Commission			After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 145	14,466	22,466
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 112	10,416	16,916	(24.) Registrar General's Office		
(13.) Inclosure and Drain- age Acts Expenses ...	4,350	7,250	After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 146	43,426	69,426
(14.) Exchequer and Audit Department ...	38,974	57,974	Resolutions reported <i>July 31</i> : Res. 8 (Privy Seal Office), Moved to agree; after short de- bate, A. 43, N. 19 ; M. 24 ; Res. 16 (Local Government Board), after short debate, agreed to		
(15.) Friendly Societies Registry ...	3,972	6,372			
(16.) Local Government Board			COMMITTEE <i>July 31</i> — REPORT <i>Aug 1</i>		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £358,145, be granted, &c."			(25.) Stationery and Printing		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £338,145, &c." (<i>Colonel Alex- ander</i>) ; after debate, Motion withdrawn			After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 311	353,450	539,450
Original Question again proposed ; after further short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 113	358,145	428,145	(26.) Woods, Forests, &c., Office of ...	15,187	23,187
(17.) Lunacy Commission			(27.) Works and Public Buildings, Office of ...	30,480	46,480
After short debate, Moved to report Pro- gress (<i>Mr. Biggar</i>) ; after further short de- bate, Motion put, and negative ; Vote agreed to [273] 136	10,571	15,071	(28.) Secret Service		
(18.) Mint (including Coinage)			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £13,000, be granted, &c."		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £42,357, be granted, &c."			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £8,000, &c." (<i>Mr. T. P. O'Connor</i>) ; after short debate, Motion with- drawn		
Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £41,607, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>) ; after short debate, Question put, and ne- gative ; after further short debate, original Question put, and agreed to ; Vote agreed to [273] 141	42,357	82,357	Original Question put ; A. 77, N. 12 ; M. 65 ; Vote agreed to ... [273] 311	13,000	23,000
(19.) National Debt Office					
Moved to report Pro- gress (<i>Mr. Biggar</i>) ; after short debate, A. 7, N. 58 ; M. 51 ; Vote agreed to ... [273] 143	9,121	14,621	SCOTLAND :		
			(29.) Exchequer and other Offices		
			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £4,171, be granted, &c."		
			Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £3,987, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>), after short debate, Question put, and ne- gative		
			Original Question again proposed ; Moved, "That a sum, not ex- ceeding £3,953, &c." (<i>Mr. Biggar</i>) ; A. 25, N. 54 ; M. 59		

[cont.]

[cont.]

SUP SUP (SESSION 1882) SUP SUP

266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275.

Supply—cont.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to ... [273] 318	4,171	6,671
(30.) Fishery Board Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £9,807, be granted, &c." After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £4,807, &c." (<i>Colonel Alex- ander</i>); after short debate, Motion with- drawn Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [273] 326	9,807	16,307
(31.) Lunacy Commission	3,994	5,994
(32.) Registrar General's Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 326	4,737	7,737
(33.) Board of Supervi- sion After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 327 Resolutions reported Aug 1; Res. 6, after short debate, agreed to	23,621	28,621
COMMITTEE Aug 3 REPORT Aug 4		
IRELAND :		
(34.) Lord Lieutenant's Household Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £4,587, be granted, &c." After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £2,587, &c." (<i>Colonel Nolan</i>); after further short de- bate, A. 9, N. 111; M. 102 Original Question again proposed; Moved, "That a sum, not ex- ceeding £3,025, &c." (<i>Mr. Biggar</i>); after short debate, A. 23, N. 102; M. 79 Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [273] 663	4,587	7,587
(35.) Chief Secretary's Office, &c. Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £26,106, be granted, &c.;" after long debate, Question put, A. 91, N. 4; M. 90; Vote agreed to ... [273] 666	26,106	39,606

[cont.]

Supply—cont.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(36.) Charitable Dona- tions and Bequests Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 706	1,203	2,10
COMMITTEE Aug 4— REPORT Aug 5		
(37.) Local Government Board After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 792	85,244	135,24
(38.) Public Works Office Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £28,031, be granted, &c." After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £26,931, &c." (<i>Mr. A. O'Connor</i>); after further debate, A. 10, N. 86; M. 76 Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [273] 830	28,031	44,531
(39.) Record Office ...	3,170	6,170
(40.) Registrar General's Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 853	14,552	29,55
(41.) Valuation and Boun- dary Survey ...	14,388	24,38
Total of Votes Class II.	...	£2,387,286

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above Sum)

(33.) Board of Supervision (Scotland)	£10,000
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CLASS III.—LAW AND JUSTICE.

	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83 £
ENGLAND :		
COMMITTEE Aug 4— REPORT Aug 5		
(1.) Law Charges After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 854	46,138	83,138
(2.) Public Prosecutor's Office After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 857	2,031	3,831
(3.) Criminal Prosecu- tions After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 859	120,436	190,436
(4.) Chancery Division; High Court of Justice After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 859	101,017	167,017
(5.) Central Office of the Supreme Court, &c. After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 862	76,209	116,209

[cont.]

SUP SUP { GENERAL INDEX } SUP SUP

266—267—268—269—270—271—272—273—274—275.

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £.	Total Vote for 1882-83. £	<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £.	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(6.) Probate, &c. Registries, High Court of Justice ...	56,990	92,990	IRELAND : COMMITTEE Aug 7— REPORT Aug 8		
(7.) Admiralty Registry, High Court of Justice	6,162	11,162			
(8.) Wreck Commission After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 864	8,971	13,471	(24.) Law Charges and Criminal Prosecutions Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £36,396, be granted, &c." After short debate, Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £35,796, &c." (Mr. Justin M. Carthy); after short debate, A. 11, N. 86; M. 75; Vote agreed to [273] 1051	36,390	86,396
(9.) Bankruptcy Court (London) After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 864	20,136	35,136	(25.) Supreme Court of Judicature After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1066	59,808	89,808
(10.) County Courts ... After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 864	325,039	475,039	(26.) Court of Bankruptcy (27.) Admiralty Court Registry ...	6,670	10,170
(11.) Land Registry After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 865	3,442	5,442	(28.) Registry of Deeds After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1069	580	1,280
(12.) Revising Barristers, England ...	18,690	18,690	(29.) Registry of Judgments ...	11,976	18,976
(13.) Police Courts (London and Sheerness)	8,556	15,556	(30.) Land Commission Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £52,552, be granted, &c." Moved to report Progress (Mr. Healy); after short debate, Motion withdrawn; original Motion withdrawn [273] 1070 Aug. 8—Question again proposed; Moved to report Progress (Mr. Sexton); Motion withdrawn; Question again proposed; Moved, "That the Chairman, &c." (Mr. Courtney); Motion agreed to; Comm. R.P. [273] 1197 Question again proposed; after debate, Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to ... Report Aug 9 [273] 1224	1,507	2,607
(14.) Metropolitan Police	286,853	486,853			
(15.) County and Borough Police, Great Britain After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 865	935,298	938,298			
(16.) Convict Establishments in England and the Colonies After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 867	284,677	424,677			
(17.) Prisons, England ...	406,801	560,804			
(18.) Reformatory and Industrial Schools, Great Britain After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 868	130,643	270,643			
(19.) Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 869	17,142	26,142			
SCOTLAND :					
(20.) Lord Advocate, and Criminal Proceedings	40,260	65,260			
(21.) Courts of Law and Justice	41,200	61,200			
COMMITTEE Aug 7— REPORT Aug 8			COMMITTEE Aug 8— REPORT Aug 11		
(22.) Register House Departments (Scotland) After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1045	26,383	38,383	(31.) County Court Officers, &c. Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £63,238, be granted, &c." After short debate, Motion withdrawn [273] 1242 Aug 10—Question again proposed; Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £62,238, &c." (Mr. Sexton); after debate,	53,532	92,552
COMMITTEE Aug 4— REPORT Aug 5					
(23.) Prisons, Scotland Res. reported Aug 5, and, after short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 926	80,987	120,987			

[cont.]

[cont.]

SUP SUP [SESSION 1882] SUP SUP
266—267—268—269—270—271—272—273—274—275.

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
A. 24, N. 81; M. 57; Original Question put, and agreed to; Vote agreed to [273] 1414	63,238	98,238
COMMITTEE Aug 10— REPORT Aug 11		
(32.) Dublin Metropolitan Police (including Police- Courts)	75,317	135,317
(33.) Constabulary Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £1,082,146, be granted, &c." After debate, A. 86, N. 14; M. 72; Vote agreed to [273] 1460	1,082,146	1,632,146
(34.) Prisons, Ireland After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1460	100,704	150,704
COMMITTEE Aug 7— REPORT Aug 8		
(35.) Reformatory and In- dustrial Schools	46,308	96,308
(36.) Dundrum Criminal Lunatic Asylum ...	4,206	6,706
Total of Votes Class III. ...		<u>£6,648,575</u>

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above Sum)	£
Vote (17.) Prisons, England ...	103,000
Vote (33.) Royal Irish Constabulary ...	<u>300,000</u>

CLASS IV.—EDUCATION, SCIENCE, AND ART.	Vote to Complete.	Total Vote for 1882-83.
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COMMITTEE April 3—REPORT April 20

ENGLAND :

(1.) Public Education After short debate, Vote agreed to [268] 648	£ 2,199,863	£ 2,749,863
(2.) Science and Art De- partment Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £291,400, be granted, &c." After short debate, Mo- tion withdrawn [268] 656		

<i>Comm. Aug 10, Ques- tion again proposed; after short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1470</i>	231,400	351,400
<i>Report Aug 11</i>		

COMMITTEE Aug 10— REPORT Aug 11		
(3.) British Museum After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1472	82,375	137,375
(4.) National Gallery	25,878	33,878

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83 £
(5.) National Portrait Gallery After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1473	3,462	4,562
(6.) Learned Societies, &c.	16,900	27,400
(7.) London University	6,631	11,631
(7A.) Aberystwith Col- lege, Wales ...		2,000
(8.) Deep Sea Exploring Expedition (Report) After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1474	2,100	4,100
(8A.) Transit of Venus	9,680	14,680

SCOTLAND :

**COMMITTEE April 3—
REPORT April 20**

(9.) Public Education	358,512	468,512
COMMITTEE Aug 10— REPORT Aug 11		
(10.) Universities, &c.	13,532	19,032
(11.) National Gallery After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1474	1,700	2,100

IRELAND :

(12.) Public Education After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1476	380,461	730,461
(13.) Teachers' Pension Office ...	1,098	1,798
(14.) Endowed Schools Commissioners	325	725
(15.) National Gallery ...	2,439	3,339
(16.) Queen's Colleges	10,178	16,178
(17.) Royal Irish Academy	1,200	2,000

Total of Votes Class IV. .. £4,681,034

SUPPLEMENTARY (included in the above Sum).

(4.) National Gallery ...	...	16,000
(5.) National Portrait Gallery ...	...	1,977
(6.) Learned Societies ...	...	6,500
(7A.) Aberystwith College, South Wales ...	...	2,000
(15.) National Gallery of Ireland ...	...	<u>1,000</u>

CLASS V.—FOREIGN AND COLONIAL SERVICES.

COMMITTEE Aug 10— REPORT Aug 11	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(1.) Diplomatic Services	92,320	202,320
(2.) Consular Services After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1476	138,100	258,100
(3.) Suppression of the Slave Trade After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1477	3,473	5,973

[cont.]

[cont.]

SUP SUP { GENERAL INDEX } SUP SUP
266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275.

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(4.) Tonnage Bounties, &c.	6,296	10,796
(5.) Suez Canal (British Directors) ...	1,870	1,870
(6.) Colonies, Grants-in-Aid		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1477	20,835	20,835
(7.) South Africa and St. Helena ...	7,145	12,145
(8.) Subsidies to Telegraph Companies ...	16,300	35,300
COMMITTEE Aug 11— REPORT Aug 12		
(9.) Cyprus, Grant-in-Aid ...		90,000
Total of Votes Class V.	...	<u>£646,139</u>

SUPPLEMENTARY.

(included in the above Sum)

(7.) South Africa and St. Helena ...	2,200
(19.) Cyprus, Grant-in-Aid ...	90,000
After short debate, Question put; A. 59, N. 21; M. 38; Vote agreed to [273] 1586	

CLASS VI.—NON-EFFECTIVE AND CHARITABLE SERVICES.

COMMITTEE Aug 10— REPORT Aug 11	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(1.) Superannuation and Retired Allowances ...	208,582	448,582
(2.) Merchant Seamen's Fund Pensions, &c. ...	11,800	24,800
(3.) Relief of Distressed British Seamen Abroad		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1482	18,900	30,900
(4.) Pauper Lunatics, England		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1483	432,500	433,500
(5.) Pauper Lunatics, Sootland ...	40,000	80,000
(6.) Pauper Lunatics, Ireland ...	5,000	90,000
(7.) Hospitals and Infirmarys, Ireland ...	8,925	16,925
(8.) Friendly Societies Deficiency		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1484	49,326	49,326
(9.) Miscellaneous Charitable and other Allowances, &c., Great Britain ...	1,529	3,029

[cont.]

<i>Supply—cont.</i>	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(10.) Miscellaneous Charitable and other Allowances, Ireland ...	2,808	3,808
Total of Votes Class VI.	...	<u>£1,180,870</u>

CLASS VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

COMMITTEE Aug 11— REPORT Aug 12	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
(1.) Temporary Commissions		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1533	14,941	25,941
(2.) Miscellaneous Expenses ...	3,711	9,211
Total of Votes Class VII.	...	<u>£35,152</u>

REVENUE DEPARTMENTS, 1882-83.

COMMITTEE Aug 11 - REPORT Aug 12	Vote to Complete. £	Total Vote for 1882-83. £
Vote I. For Salaries and Expenses of the Customs Department ...	703,155	993,155
Vote II. For Salaries and Expenses of the Inland Revenue Department	1,557,822	1,907,822
Vote III. For Salaries and Expenses of the Post Office Services, the expenses of Post Office Savings Banks, and Government Annuities and Insurances, and the Collection of the Post Office Revenue ...	3,043,300	3,743,300
Vote IV. For the Post Office Packet Service		
After debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1536	490,514	710,514
Vote V. For Salaries and Expenses of the Post Office Telegraph Service		
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 1552	835,298	1,435,298
Total Revenue Departments ...	...	<u>£8,790,089</u>
Aug 12—Resolutions reported— Vote III—Post Office—Short debate thereon, [273] 1627		

COMMITTEE Aug 1—REPORT Aug 2	£
ADVANCES FOR GREENWICH HOSPITAL AND SCHOOL ...	155,475
After short debate, Vote agreed to [273] 498	

[cont.]

Supply—cont.

Total of
Vote.

**FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
(VOTE OF CREDIT)**
COMMITTEE July 24

Moved, "That a sum, not exceeding £2,300,000, be granted

Towards defraying the expenses, £
beyond the ordinary grants of
Parliament, which may be in-
curred during the year ending
on the 31st day of March, 1883,
in strengthening Her Majesty's
Forces in the Mediterranean,
including the cost of a further
number of land forces of 10,000
men 2,300,000

After debate, Motion withdrawn
[272] 1574

Comm. July 25—First Night;
after long time spent therein,
Committee—R.P. [272] 1601

Comm. July 25—Second Night;
after long time spent therein,
Committee—R.P. [272] 1759

Supply—cont.

Total of
Vote.

Comm. July 26—Second Night;
after long time spent therein,
Committee—R.P. [272] 1829

Comm. July 27—Third Night;
after long time spent therein,
Moved to report Progress (*Mr.*
O'Donnell); Question put, and
negatived; Original Question
put; A. 275; N. 19; M. 256;
Vote agreed to [272] 2106
REPORT July 28

AFGHAN WAR (GRANT IN AID)

COMMITTEE Aug 7—REPORT Aug 8
For paying an instalment of a
grant in aid of the expenditure
incurred by the Government of
India upon the War in Afghan-
istan, in the years 1878-80,
which will become due and pay-
able during the year ending on
the 31st day of March 1883 ...

£

500,000

**Supreme Court of Judicature Acts
Amendment Bill**

(*Sir Hardinge Giffard, Mr. Butt, Mr. McIntyre,*
Mr. Charles Russell, Mr. Inderwick, Mr.
Webster, Mr. Bushanan, Mr. Gregory)

c. Motion for Leave (*Sir Hardinge Giffard*)
May 9, [269] 353; Motion agreed to; Bill
ordered

Read 1^o * May 10 [Bill 154]

Read 2^o * May 17

Committee—R.P. May 24, 1890

Committee—R.P. May 25, 1893

Committee; Report June 12, [270] 952

As amended, to be considered [Dropped]

**Supreme Court of Judicature (Ireland) Act
Amendment Bill—cont.**

Committee *; Report July 7

Read 3^o * July 10

c. Read 1^o * (*Mr. Herbert Gladstone*) July 21

Read 2^o * Aug 5 [Bill 250]

Committee; Report; read 3^o Aug 11, [273]
1612

l. Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 70]

Surrey (Trial of Causes) Bill

(*Mr. Warton, Mr. Henry H. Fowler*)

c. Ordered; read 1^o * June 15 [Bill 204]

Read 2^o * June 28

Bill withdrawn * Aug 9

**Supreme Court of Judicature Amend-
ment Bill [H.L.]**

(*The Lord Chancellor*)

l. Presented; read 1^o * June 27 (No. 167)

Read 2^o, after short debate July 3, [271] 1227

Committee July 6, 1875

Report * July 7 (No. 179)

Read 3^o; Bill passed, after short debate July 10,
1914

c. Read 1^o * (*Mr. Attorney General*) July 18

[Bill 243]

Read 2^o, after debate July 20, [272] 1167

The Winter Assizes, Question, *Mr. Rankin*;
Answer, *The Attorney General* July 24,
[272] 1545

Committee [Dropped]

SUTHERLAND, Duke of

Railways (Continuous Brakes), Comm. [269]
1233

**Swansea, Oystermouth, and Mumbles Rail-
way Bill (by Order)**

c. Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2^o"
(*Mr. Dodds*) Mar 21, [267] 1418

Amendt. to leave out "now," and add "upon
this day six months" (*Mr. Hussey Vivian*);
Question proposed, "That 'now,' &c.;"
after short debate, Question put; A. 55,
N. 161; M. 106 (D. L. 54)

Words added; main Question, as amended,
put, and agreed to; 2R. put off

**Supreme Court of Judicature (Ireland)
Act Amendment Bill [H.L.]**

(*The Lord Thurlow*)

l. Presented; read 1^o * June 27 (No. 166)

Read 2^o * July 6

SYDNEY, Earl (Lord Steward)

Her Majesty the Queen, Attempt upon the
Life of, Address to Her Majesty, [267] 441

H.R.H. Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany—
Queen's Answer to the Address, [268] 1204

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276, 277; cl. 4, 443, 604, 676, 742, 878;
Amendt. 901, 908; cl. 5, 1022; cl. 6, 1093;
cl. 8, 1487, 1492, 1504, 1540; cl. 9, 1619,
1670; cl. 11, 1847

[271] cl. 13, Amendt. 303, 306, 314; cl. 14, 552;
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Tithe Rent Charge Bill

(Mr. Stanley Leighton, Mr. Cropper, Mr. Pell, Mr. Bulwer)
c. Ordered; read 1^o Feb 13 [Bill 67]
2R. [Dropped]

Tithe Rent Charge (Extraordinary) Bill

(Mr. Inderwick, Mr. Duckham, Sir Edmund Filmer)
c. Motion for Leave (Mr. Inderwick) Feb 9, [266] 339; after short debate, Motion agreed to; Bill ordered
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(*Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. Chamberlain*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * April 27 [Bill 141]
- Read 2^o * May 9
- Report * June 6
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- Read 3^o * June 8

Tramways Provisional Orders Bill—cont.

- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Sudeley*) June 9 (No. 125)
- Read 2^o * June 19
- Report of Select Comm. * June 30
- Committee * July 3
- Report * July 4
- Read 3^o * July 6
- Royal Assent July 24 [45 & 46 Vict. c. cxxxviii]

Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 2)

Bill (*Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. Chamberlain*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o * May 3 [Bill 149]
- Read 2^o * May 16
- Report * June 6
- Considered * June 7
- Read 3^o * June 8
- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Sudeley*) June 9 (No. 126)
- Read 2^o * June 19
- Committee * June 20
- Report * June 22
- Read 3^o * June 23
- Royal Assent July 3 [45 & 46 Vict. c. lxx]

Tramways Provisional Orders (No. 3)

Bill (*Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. Chamberlain*)

- c. Ordered * May 4 [Bill 151]
- Read 1^o * May 5
- Read 2^o * May 16
- Report * June 8
- Considered * June 12
- Read 3^o * June 13
- l. Read 1^o * (*Lord Sudeley*) June 15 (No. 149)
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c. Ordered; read 1^o June 8 [Bill 198]
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spondence respecting the Affairs of Tunis"
(*The Lord Stratheden and Campbell*) June
26, [271] 351; after short debate, Motion
agreed to

Tunis—Administration of Justice

- Moved, "That an humble Address be presented
to Her Majesty for correspondence on the
subject of the alleged intention of the French
Government to suppress the capitulations
and to abolish the consular courts in Tunis"
(*The Earl De La Warr*) June 30, [271]
903; after short debate, Motion withdrawn

Tunis—Bombardment of Sfax—Indemnity to British Subjects

- Moved, "That an humble Address be presented
to Her Majesty for papers and correspond-

[*cont.*

[*cont.*

Tunis — Bombardment of Sfax—Indemnity to British Subjects—cont.

ence relating to the International Commission held at Sfax in August 1881 to inquire into the pillaging and destruction of property after the entry of the French troops; also for the reports of M. Galea and M. Leonardi on the same subject; and for papers and correspondence relative to the affairs of Tunis since the last papers were presented" (*The Earl De La Warr*) May 1, [268] 1801; after short debate, Motion withdrawn
Question, The Earl of Bective; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 1, 1841

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Administrative Reforms, Question, Sir H. Drummond Wolff; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke May 1, [268] 1829

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Sheikh Obeidullah, Question, Sir Henry Tyler; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Nov 23, [274] 1909

The Treaty of Berlin—The Public Debt of Turkey, Questions, Mr. Bourke; Answers, Sir Charles W. Dilke Nov 27, [275] 103
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Turkey and Russia—The Russo-Turkish War Indemnity

Question, Baron Henry De Worms; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke Aug 4, [273] 749

Turnpike Acts Continuance Act, 1881

Select Committee appointed and nominated, inquire into the Fourth and Fifth Schedules of "The Annual Turnpike Acts Continuance Act, 1881" Mar 30, as follows:—Mr. Werworth Beaumont (Chairman), Mr. Beaumont Lord Edward Cavendish, Mr. Wilbraham Egerton, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, Mr. Hibbert, and Mr. Thomas Salt

Further Instruction April 20, [268] 1081

Report P.P. 1

Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill

(Mr. Hibbert, Mr. Dodson)

c. Ordered; read 1^o July 10 [Bill 233]

Read 2^o July 13

Committee*; Report July 14

Read 3^o July 17

l. Read 1^o (Lord Carrington) July 18 (No. 19)

Read 2^o Aug 3

Committee* Aug 4

Report* Aug 7

Read 3^o Aug 8

Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 52]

Turnpike Roads (South Wales) Bill

(Mr. Dodson, Mr. Hibbert)

c. Ordered; read 1^o Mar 10 [Bill 101]

Question, Viscount Emlyn; Answer, Mr. Dodson Mar 13, [267] 752

Read 2^o Mar 16

Report* Mar 28

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 3^o May 1, [268] 1901

Amendt. to leave out "now read 3^o" and add "re-committed" v. (Mr. Hussey Vivian)

Question proposed, "That the words, &c.; after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned" (Mr. Hibbert); after further short debate, Question put, and agreed to Debate adjourned

Debate resumed Aug 5, [273] 892; Question put and negatived; words added; main Question as amended, put, and agreed to; Committee Report; Considered; read 3^o

l. Read 1^o (Lord Carrington) Aug 7 (No. 226)

Read 2^o Aug 14

Committee*; Report Aug 15

Read 3^o Aug 16

Royal Assent Aug 18 [45 & 46 Vict. c. 67]

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Entail (Scotland), Report, [272] 686; cf. 1 Amendt. 687

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Sheikh Obeidullah, [274] 1909

Union of Benefices Act—St. Olave, Jewry

Question, Colonel Alexander; Answer, Sir

William Harcourt Nov 27, [275] 94

Union of Benefices (London) Bill [H.L.]

(The Lord Bishop of London)

l. Presented; read 1st * Mar 31 (No. 61)

Read 2nd, after short debate May 9, [269] 327

Committee, after short debate May 22, 1225

Report June 6, [270] 219 (No. 101)

Read 3rd * June 13 (No. 118)

c. Brought from the Lords June 15

Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill

(Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Mr.

William Edward Forster, Mr. Attorney

General for Ireland)

c. Motion for Leave (Mr. Herbert Gladstone)

Feb 20, [266] 1204; after short debate,

Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned"

(Mr. Sexton); after further short debate,

Question put; A. 11, N. 98; M. 87 (D. L.

13)

Original Question again proposed, 1216; after

short debate, original Question put; A. 102,

N. 9; M. 93 (D. L. 14); Bill ordered;

read 1st *

[Bill 75]

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Union Officers' Superannuation (Ireland) Bill—

cont.

Expenses of Legislation, Question, Mr. Moore;

Answer, Mr. Herbert Gladstone Mar 2, 1939

Power to Guardians of Granting Superannua-

tion Allowances, Question, Mr. Callan; An-

swer, Mr. Herbert Gladstone Mar 6, [267] 186

Moved, "That the Bill be read 2nd upon Satur-

day next" July 20, [272] 1168

Amendt. to leave out "Saturday," and insert

"Monday" (Mr. Biggar) v.; Question pro-

posed, "That 'Saturday,' &c.;" after short

debate, Question put; A. 78, N. 5; M. 73

(D. L. 284)

Main Question put, and agreed to

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2nd"

July 22, 1479; Moved, "That the Debate

be now adjourned" (Mr. Leamy); after

short debate, Question put, and negatived

Original Question put, and agreed to; Bill

read 2nd, and referred to a Select Committee

And, on Aug 5, Committee nominated as

follows:—Mr. Herbert Gladstone (Chair-

man), Captain Aylmer, Mr. Biggar, Mr.

Callan, Mr. Daly, Mr. Findlater, Mr. Fitz-

patrick, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Greer, Mr. Healy,

Mr. Justin M'Carthy, Mr. Meldon, Mr.

Mulholland, Sir Patrick O'Brien, and

Colonel Tottenham

Aug 8, Mr. Attorney General for Ireland *disch.*,

Mr. Solicitor General for Ireland *added*

Report of Select Comm.* Aug 11 [No. 353]

United Kingdom, Fisheries of the—Digest
of Statutes and Regulations of Fishery
Boards, with Index

Questions, General Sir George Balfour; An-

swers, The Lord Advocate Aug 7, [273] 954

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Copyright Convention with, Question, Mr.

Hinde Palmer; Answer, Sir Charles W.

Dilke Feb 13, [266] 1363

Trial of British Subjects, Question, Mr.

Puleston; Answer, Sir Charles W. Dilke

April 25, [268] 1406

Universities Committee of Privy Council
Bill

(Mr. Roundell, Mr. Bryce, Mr.

Wodehouse, Mr. Shield)

c. Motion for Leave (Mr. Roundell) Feb 9, [266]

330; after short debate, Motion agreed to;

Bill ordered *

Read 1st * Feb 10 [Bill 29]

2R. [Dropped]

Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act,
1877—The Statutes

Moved, "That the Statutes laid on the Table

of this House by the Oxford and Cambridge

University Commissioners during the present

Session be forthwith printed" (The Marquess

of Salisbury) Mar 6, [267] 167; after short

debate, Motion agreed to

(P.P. l. 81 to 31—viii., 35 to 35—iv.)

Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877 (Lincoln College Statutes)

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty to withhold Her assent from the Statutes, now on the Table of this House, for Lincoln College, Oxford" (*The Lord Bishop of Lincoln*) May 12, [269] 529; after short debate, on Question? Cont. 71, Not-Cont. 42; M. 29 Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont. 546 (P.P. l. 31; c. 67)

Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act, 1877 (Oxford University Statutes)

Moved, "That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty to withhold Her assent from the proposed Statute for the University of Oxford, framed by the University of Oxford Commissioners, concerning the nomination of examiners, and now on the Table of this House" (*The Marquess of Salisbury*) July 20, [272] 1055; after debate, on Question? Cont. 57, Not-Cont. 70; M. 13; resolved in the negative Div. List, Cont. and Not-Cont. 1070

University Education (Ireland) Bill

(*Mr. William Corbet, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Gray, Mr. Dawson*)

c. Ordered * Feb 8

Read 1° * Feb 9

[Bill 9]

Moved, "That the Bill be now read 2°," Mar 22, [267] 1560; after debate, Moved, "That the Debate be now adjourned," (*Sir Joseph McKenna*) [The Motion, not being Seconded, could not be put]

Question put, "That the Bill be now read 2°;" A. 35, N. 214; M. 179 (D. L. 57)

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(*Mr. Evelyn Ashley, Mr. Chamberlain*)

- c. Ordered; read 1^o April 20 [Bill 135]
- Read 2^o May 2
- Report May 12
- Read 3^o May 16
- l. Read 1^o (Lord Rosebery) May 16 (No. 97)
- Read 2^o June 2
- Committee June 22
- Report June 26 (No. 158)
- Read 3^o June 27
- Royal Assent July 12 [45 & 46 Vict. c. c]

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(Major Ross, Dr. Cameron)

- e. Ordered * July 5
Read 1^o * July 7 [Bill 231]
Read 2^o * July 12
Committee [Dropped]

Wellesley Bridge (Limerick) Bill

(Mr. Courtney, Lord Richard Grosvenor)

- e. Ordered; read 1^o * June 1 [Bill 189]
Read 2^o *, and referred to a Select Committee July 17
And, on July 18, Committee nominated as follows:—Mr. Courtney (Chairman), Mr. O'Shaughnessy, Mr. Henry Thomson:—Mr. Alderman Fowler and Mr. Shaw added by the Committee of Selection
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ERRATA.

In Vol. [271], page 1928, line 9 from bottom, for "Sir Edward Moseley," read "Sir Oswald Moseley."

In Vol. [272], page 2110, lines 18 and 19 from top, for "Lieutenant General Fitzroy and Lord John Lindsay," read "Lieutenants General Lord F. Fitzroy and Hon. James Lindsay."

In Vol. [273], page 362, line 20 from bottom, after "At," insert the words "the period of;" and in line 19, after "Ships," insert the words "belonging to our Navy."

" " page 363, lines 29 and 30 from top, for "all along her water line," read "round the batteries;" and in line 31, after "ram," insert the words "at a thickness of 13 or 14 inches."

END OF VOLUME COLXXV., AND TENTH AND LAST
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